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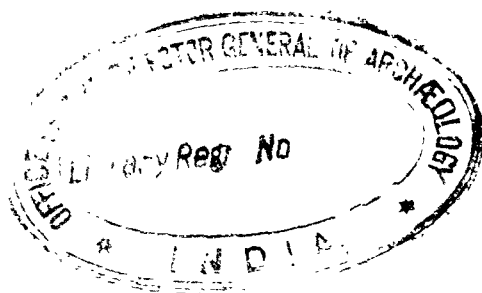
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PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
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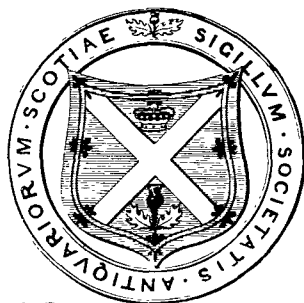






PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

SESSION  
MCMXXIV.—MCMXXV.



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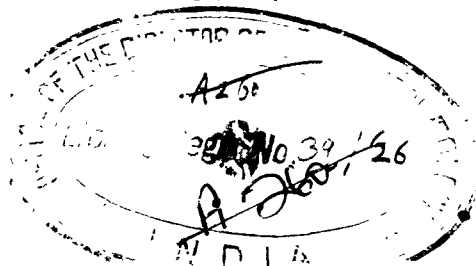
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MCMXXV.



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L A W S  
AND  
LIST OF FELLOWS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND





L A W S  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 1780 AND INCORPORATED BY  
ROYAL CHARTER 6TH MAY 1783.

*(Revised and adopted November 30, 1901.)*

---

1. The purpose of the Society shall be the promotion of ARCHÆOLOGY, especially as connected with the investigation of the ANTIQUITIES AND HISTORY OF SCOTLAND.
2. The Society shall consist of Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Corresponding Members, and Lady Associates.
3. Candidates for admission as Fellows must sign the Form of Application prescribed by the Council, and must be proposed by a Fellow and seconded by two members of the Council. Admission shall be by ballot.
4. The Secretaries shall cause the names of the Candidates and of their Proposers to be inserted in the billet calling the Meeting at which they are to be balloted for. The Ballot may be taken for all the Candidates named in the billet at once; but if three or more black balls appear, the Chairman of the Meeting shall cause the Candidates to be balloted for singly. Any Candidate receiving less than two-thirds of the votes given shall not be admitted.
5. Honorary Fellows shall consist of persons eminent in Archæology, who must be recommended by the Council, and balloted for in the same way as Fellows; and they shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions. The number of Honorary Fellows shall not exceed twenty-five.

6. Corresponding Members must be recommended by the Council and balloted for in the same way as Fellows, and they shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions.

7. Ladies who have done valuable work in the field of Archæology may be admitted as Lady Associates. The number of Lady Associates shall not exceed twenty-five. They shall be proposed by the Council and balloted for in the same way as Fellows, and shall not be liable for any fees of admission or annual subscriptions.

8. Before the name of any person is added to the List of Fellows, such person shall pay to the funds of the Society Two Guineas as an entrance fee and One Guinea for the current year's subscription, or may compound for the entrance fee and all annual subscriptions by the payment of Twenty Guineas at the time of admission. Fellows may compound for future annual subscriptions by a single payment of Fifteen Guineas after having paid five annual subscriptions; or of Ten Guineas after having paid ten annual subscriptions.

9. The subscription of One Guinea shall become due on the 30th November in each year for the year then commencing; and if any Fellow who has not compounded shall fail to pay the subscription for three successive years, due application having been made for payment, the Treasurer shall report the same to the Council, by whose authority the name of the defaulter may be erased from the list of Fellows

10. Every Fellow not being in arrears of the annual subscription shall be entitled to receive the printed Proceedings of the Society from the date of election.

11. None but Fellows shall vote or hold any office in the Society.

12. Subject to the Laws and to the control of the Society in General Meetings, the affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council elected and appointed as hereinafter set forth. Five Members of the Council shall be a quorum.

13. The Office-Bearers of the Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries for general purposes, two Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence, a Treasurer, two Curators of the Museum, a Curator of Coins, and a Librarian. The President shall be elected for a period of five years, and the Vice-Presidents for a period of three years.

One of the Vice-Presidents shall retire annually by rotation and shall not again be eligible for the same office until after the lapse of one year. All the other Office-Bearers shall be elected for one year and shall be eligible for re-election.

14. In accordance with the agreement subsisting between the Society and the Government, the Board of Manufactures (now the Board of Trustees) shall be represented on the Council by two of its Members (being Fellows of the Society) elected annually by the Society. The Treasury shall be represented on the Council by the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer (being a Fellow of the Society).

15. The Council shall consist of the Office-Bearers, the three representative Members above specified, and nine Fellows, elected by the Society.

16. Three of the nine elected Members of Council shall retire annually by rotation, and shall not again be eligible till after the lapse of one year. Vacancies among the elected Members of Council and Office-Bearers occurring by completion of term of office, by retirement on rotation, by resignation, by death or otherwise, shall be filled by election at the Annual General Meeting. The election shall be by Ballot, upon a list issued by the Council for that purpose to the Fellows at least fourteen days before the Meeting.

17. The Council may appoint committees or individuals to take charge of particular departments of the Society's business.

18. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall take place on St Andrew's Day, the 30th of November, or on the following day if the 30th be a Sunday.

19. The Council shall have power to call Extraordinary General Meetings when they see cause.

20. The Ordinary Meetings of the Society shall be held on the second Monday of each month, from December to May inclusive.

21. Every proposal for altering the Laws must be made through the Council ; and the Secretaries, on instructions from the Council, shall cause intimation thereof to be made to all the Fellows at least one month before the General Meeting at which it is to be determined on.

## FORMS OF BEQUEST.

*Form of Special Bequest.*

I. A. B., do hereby leave and bequeath to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland incorporated by Royal Charter, my collection of                      and I direct that the same shall be delivered to the said Society on the receipt of the Secretary or Treasurer thereof.

*General Form of Bequest.*

I. A. B., do hereby leave and bequeath to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland incorporated by Royal Charter, the sum of £                      sterling [*to be used for the general purposes of the Society*] [or, *to be used for the special purpose or object, of*                      ], and I direct that the said sum may be paid to the said Society on the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being.

# LIST OF THE FELLOWS

## OF THE

# SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,

NOVEMBER 30, 1925.

PATRON :  
HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1922. ADAM, Sir JAMES, K.C., C.B.E., King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, Westquarter, Falkirk.                       | 1887.*ANDERSON-BERRY, DAVID, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.E., Versailles, 19 Stanhope Road, Highgate, London, N. 6.               |
| 1899. AGNEW, Sir ANDREW N., Bart., Lochnaw Castle, Stranraer,— <i>Vice-President</i> .                                     | 1923. ANDREWS, MICHAEL CORBET, F.R.G.S., F.R.S.G.S., F.R.S.A.I., Orsett, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast.                   |
| 1917. AGNEW, STAIR CARNEGIE, M.A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law, 8 Prince Arthur Road, Hampstead, London, N.W. 3.               | 1913. ANGUS, Miss MARY, Immerhach, 354 Blackness Road, Dundee.  |
| 1892. AILSA, The Most Hon. The Marquess of. Culzean Castle, Maybole.   | 1921. ANGUS, WILLIAM, Curator of the Historical Department, Record Office, H.M. General Register House.                 |
| 1905. ALEXANDER, R. S., Grant Lodge, 18 Lomond Road, Trinity.  | 1910. ANNAN, J. CRAIG, Glenbank, Lenzie.  |
| 1909. ALISON, JAMES PEARSON, F.R.I.B.A., 45 Bridge Street, Hawick.   | 1900. ANSTRUTHER, Sir RALPH W., Bart, Balcaskie, Pittenweem.  |
| 1922. ALLAN, JAMES H., 143 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.  | 1897. ANSTRUTHER-GRAY, WILLIAM, Lieut.-Col., Royal Horse Guards, Kilmany, Fife, — <i>Vice-President</i> .               |
| 1918. ALLAN WILLIAM KINLOCH, Erngath, 2 Wester Coates Avenue.  | 1918.*ARGYLL, His Grace The Duke of, Inveraray Castle.  |
| 1925. ANDERSON, ALEXANDER HUTTON, M.A., Donaldson's Hospital.  | 1914. ARMITAGE, Captain HARRY, late 15th Hussars, The Grange, North Berwick.  |
| 1922. ANDERSON, ARTHUR R., 8 Westbourne Terrace, Glasgow, W.   | 1910. ARMSTRONG, A. LESLIE, M.C., F.S.I., F.S.A., 14 Swaledale Road, Millhouses, Sheffield.                             |
| 1922. ANDERSON, ERIC S., 5 Eildon Street.  | 1921. ARNOTT, JAMES ALEXANDER, F.R.I.B.A., 13 Young Street.   |
| 1907. ANDERSON, JAMES LAWSON, 45 Northumberland Street.  | 1901.*ARTHUR, ALEXANDER THOMSON, M.B., C.M., Ingleside, West Cults, by Aberdeen.  |
| 1897. ANDERSON, Major JOHN HAMILTON, 2nd East Lancashire Regiment, c/o Messrs Cox & Co., 16 Charing Cross, London, S.W. 1. | 1910. ASHER, JOHN, 13 Pitcullen Crescent, Perth.  |
| 1902.*ANDERSON, Major ROBERT DOUGLAS, c/o The Manager, Lloyd's Bank, Paignton, Devon.                                      | 1924. ASHWORTH, Mrs, 69 Brail Avenue.   |
| 1920. ANDERSON, Rev. ROBERT S. G., B.D., Minister of the United Free Church, Isle of Whithorn, Wigtownshire.               | 1917.*ATHOLL, His Grace The Duke of, K.T., C.B., M.V.O., D.S.O., LL.D., Blair Castle, Blair Atholl,— <i>President</i> . |

An asterisk (\*) denotes Life Members who have compounded for their Annual Contributions.

1915. BAIN, GEORGE, Rossbank, Nairn.
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1913. BAIRD, Major WILLIAM A. Lennoxlove, Haddington.
1922. BAIRD, WILLIAM MACDONALD, F.F.S., 50 George Street.
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- 1897.\*BARNETT, Rev. T. RATCLIFFE, 7 Corrennie Gardens.
1922. BARRIE, JOHN ALEXANDER, 15 Abbey Road, Eskbank.
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- 1891.\*BAYNE, THOMAS, 69 West Cumberland Street, Glasgow.
- 1884.\*BEATON, Major ANGUS J., C.M.G., V.D., Trouville, Evesham Road, Pittville, Cheltenham.
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1924. BELL, WILLIAM EDMUND, Solicitor, 13 Whitehall Terrace, Aberdeen.
1924. BENTINCK, Rev. CHARLES D., D.D., The Manse, Dornoch, Sutherland.
- 1923.\*BEST, JOHN, Warriston House, Edinburgh.
1925. BEVERIDGE, JAMES, M.A., Rector of Linlithgow Academy, Wellbank, Linlithgow.
919. BINNIE, R. B. JARDINE, Old Place, Hampton Court.
1909. BISHOP, ANDREW HENDERSON, Thornton Hall, Lanarkshire.
1922. BISHOP, FREDERICK, Ruthven House, Colinton.
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1882. BLACK, WILLIAM GEORGE, C.B.E., LL.D., Ramoyle, Dowanhill Gardens, Glasgow.
1885. BLAIKIE, WALTER BIGGAR, LL.D., Firbank, Colinton.
1909. BLUNDELL, Rev. ODO, O.S.B., St Anne's Priory, Edge Hill, Liverpool.
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1917. BONAR, JOHN JAMES, Eldinbrae, Lasswade.
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1919. BORLAND, JOHN, Auchencairn, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire.
- 1903.\*BORTHWICK, HENRY, of Borthwick Castle, Midlothian, 122 Gt. Western Road, Glasgow.
1920. BOYD, JAMES STIRLING, L.R.I.B.A., "The Bield," Glenlea Road, Eltham, London, S.E. 9.
1913. BRODIE, Captain ROBERT HUME, Altair, Craigendoran, Helensburgh.
1908. BROOK, WILLIAM, 87 George Street.
- 1906.\*BROWN, ADAM, Netherby, Galashiels.
1910. BROWN, ADAM THORBURN, Torquhan, Stow.
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- 1921.\*BROWN, DONALD, 80 Grosvenor Street, West Hartlepool.
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- 1920.\*COWAN, ROBERT CRAIG, Eskhill, Inveresk, Midlothian.
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- 1896.\*DRUMMOND, ROBERT, O.B.E., Forneth, Castlehead, Paisley.
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1920. MOFFAT, MUIRHEAD, Morven, 11 Dungeyne Street, Maryhill Park, Glasgow.
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1908. MONTGOMERIE, JOHN CUNNINGHAM, Dalmore, Stair, Ayrshire.
1925. MONTGOMERY, WALTER BASIL GRAHAM, C.B.E., D.L., Kinross House, Kinross.
1922. MOONEY, JOHN, J.P., Cromwell Cottage, Kirkwall, Orkney.
1921. MOORE, WILLIAM JAMES, L.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.E., F.R.F.P.S.G., 10 Parkgrove Terrace, Glasgow.
1895. MORAY, The Right Hon. The Earl of, H.R.S.A., Kinfauns Castle, Perth.
1922. MORRIS, Professor H. CARLTON S., M.A. (Oxon.), F.R.Hist.S., University of Trinity College, Toronto, Canada.
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- 1887.\*MOUBRAY, JOHN J., Naemoor, Rumbling Bridge.
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1919. MUNRO, ALEXANDER, Craggie, Rogart, Sutherland.
1922. MUNRO, NEIL, LL.D., Cromalt, Helensburgh.
- 1911.\*MURCHIE, JAMES, Pennoch, Kingcase, Prestwick, Ayrshire.
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- 1905.\*MURRAY, P. KEITH, W.S., 19 Charlotte Square.
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1899. NOVAR, The Right Hon. Viscount, of Raith and Novar, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Raith, Kirkcaldy.
1922. OCHTERLONY, CHARLES FRANCIS, Metchley Cottage, Cramond Bridge, West Lothian.
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- 1907.\*OKE, ALFRED WILLIAM, B.A., F.I.S., 32 Denmark Villas, Hove, Sussex.
1920. ORD, JOHN, 2 Monteth Row, Glasgow.
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1891. PATON, VICTOR ALBERT NOEL, W.S., 31 Melville Street.
1919. PATRICK, JOSEPH, M.A., C.A., Macdonallie, Lochwinnoch.
1925. PATTERSON, RICHARD FERRAR, M.A. (Cantab.), D.Litt.(Glas.), Graham's Dyke, Bearsden, Dumbartonshire.
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- 1871.\*PAUL, SIR GEORGE M., LL.D., W.S., Deputy Keeper of the Signet, 9 Eglinton Crescent.
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- 1902.\*PAULIN, SIR DAVID, F.F.A., 6 Forbes Street.
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1922. PIERCE, Miss NORMA L., 61 Anderson Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.
1919. PENFOLD, HENRY, Boldersyde, Brampton, Cumberland.

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1919. PHILLIPS, DAVID RHYS, F.L.A., Baili Glas, 15 Chaddesley Terrace, Swansea.
1920. PLOWES, WILLIAM ROBERT, F.R.M.S., F.R.A.S., Chapel-Allerton, Leeds.
1921. PORTER, Mrs BLACKWOOD, West Lodge, North Berwick.
- 1901 \*PORTLAND, His Grace The Duke of, K.G., Welbeck Abbey, Notts
1921. POWRIE, Mrs, Earlie Bank, Craigie, Perth.
1918. PRAIN, HENRY, J.P., Helenbank, Longforgan, by Dundee.
- 1911.\*PRESTON, FRANK A.B., M.R.S.I., M.S.A., Drumdarroch, 27 Ferguson Avenue, Milngavie.
1905. PRICE, C. REES, Bannits, Broadway, Worcester-shire.
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1924. PULLAR, PETER MACDOUGALL, 92 Kirkcaldy Road, Maxwell Park, Glasgow, S. I.
1919. PURSELL, JAMES, Elmhurst, Cramond Bridge.
1924. PURVES, JOHN M., M.C., 39 Spottiswoode Street.
1912. QUICK, RICHARD, Curator of the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum, East Cliff, Bournemouth.
1921. RAE, JOHN N., S.S.C., 2 Danube Street.
1924. RAINY, GEORGE T., C.A., 47 Queen Street.
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- 1924.\*RAMSAY, DOUGLAS M., Bowland, Stow, Mid-lothian.
- 1908.\*RANKIN WILLIAM BLACK, of Cleddans, 55 Manor Place.
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- 1897.\*REID, Rev EDWARD T. S., M.A., Ravelston, 994 Great Western Road, Glasgow.
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1920. REID, THOMAS, M.A., Arnold House, Lanark.
- 1921.\*RENNIE, JOHN, Wellerroft, Helensburgh.
1917. RICHARDSON, Rev. ANDREW T., Whyte's Cause-way Manse, Kirkcaldy.
- 1912.\*RICHARDSON, JAMES S., Inspector of Ancient Monuments, H.M. Office of Works, 122 George Street.
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- 1898.\*ROBERTS, ALEXANDER F., Fairnilee, Galashiels.
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1923. ROLLAND, Miss HELEN M., The Elms, Peebles.
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1924. ROSE, Sir H. ARTHUR, 23 Ainslie Place.
- 1872.\*ROSEBERY AND MIDLOTHIAN, The Right Hon. The Earl of, K.G., K.T., D.C.L., LL.D., Dalmeny Park.
1924. ROSS, DONALD, M.B., Tigh na Linne, Lochgilp-head.
1922. ROSS, Major JOHN, Euroa, Langbank.
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1925. RUSSELL, JAMES, Town Clerk of Linlithgow, 51 High Street, Linlithgow.
1914. RUSSELL, JOHN, 2 Brunton Place.

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1905. SANDS, The Hon. LORD, LL.D., 4 Heriot Row.
- 1903.\*SAYCE, Rev. A. H., M.A., LL.D., D.D., Professor of Assyriology, Oxford, 8 Chalmers Crescent, Edinburgh,—*Foreign Secretary*.
1912. SCLATER, Rev. HENRY GUY, The Rectory, Ballachulish, Argyll.
- 1910.\*SCOBIE, Major IAIN H. MACKAY, 1st Seatorth Highlanders, c/o Messrs Cox & Co., Charing Cross, London, S.W. 1.
1922. SCOTT, Rev. A. BOYD, M.C., B.D., Minister of Lansdowne Church, 18 Lilybank Gardens, Glasgow, W.
1922. SCOTT, GEORGE WAUGH, M.D., Sungai Siput, Perak, Federated Malay States.
1903. SCOTT, JOHN, W.S., 13 Hill Street.
1901. SCOTT, J. H. F. KINNAIRD, of Gala, Gala House, Galashiels.
1923. SCOTT, KEITH STANLEY MALCOLM, M.B.E., B.Sc., Captain, R.E., T.A., of Orchard, The Woll, Ponteland, Northumberland.
- 1921.\*SCOTT, R. L., 11 Newark Street, Greenock.
1889. SCOTT-MONCRIEFF, W. G., M.A., Honorary Sheriff-Substitute of Lanarkshire, Whitechurch Rectory, Edgware, Middlesex.
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1920. SETON, Brevet-Colonel Sir BRUCE, of Abercorn, Bart., C.B., 12 Grosvenor Crescent.
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1917. SHAW, JULIUS ADOLPHUS, Mus B., Trin. Coll. Dublin, L.Mus., T.C.L., 4 Grosvenor Road, Whalley Range, Manchester.
1918. SHAW, MACKENZIE S., W.S., 1 Thistle Court.
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1908. SHEARER, JOHN E., 6 King Street, Stirling.
1920. SHEPPARD, THOMAS, M.Sc., F.G.S., F.R.G.S., Curator, The Municipal Museums, Hull.
1917. SHIELDS, COURTENAY JOHN, C.A., 17 Melville Street.
1913. SIM, Rev. GUSTAVUS AIRD, United Free Church Manse, Kirkurd, Peeblesshire.
- 1919.\*SIMPSON, Professor JAMES YOUNG, D.Sc., F.R.S.E., 25 Chester Street.
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1907. SKERRINGTON, The Hon. LORD, 12 Randolph Crescent.
1909. SKINNER, ROBERT TAYLOR, M.A., F.R.S.E., House Governor, Donaldson's Hospital.
1920. SLEIGH, THOMAS MILLAR, J.P., 38 Queen's Crescent.
1921. SMART, ROBERT SIMPLE, Journalist, St Hilda, Wormit-on-Tay.
1922. SMYTH, THOMAS YOUNG, Solicitor, Castlewood, Jedburgh.
1922. SMITH, ALAN K., F.R.S., 29 Hermitage Gardens.
1922. SMITH, CAMPBELL, S.S.C., 19 Clarendon Crescent.
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- 1910.\*SPENCER, Colonel CHARLES LOUIS, C.B.E., D.S.O., 5 Great Western Terrace, Glasgow.
- 1910.\*SPENCER, JOHN JAMES, 5 Great Western Terrace, Glasgow.
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- 1903.\*STARK, Rev. WILLIAM A., Church Place, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright.
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1923. STEEDMAN, J. W. E., S.S.C., Braighleacainn, Oban.
1923. STEPHEN, FREDERICK S., Scotsraig, Tayport, Fife.
1920. STEPHEN, Rev. WILLIAM, B.D., The Manse, Inverkeithing.
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1920. STEWART, WILLIAM RITCHIE, Merick, Dalmeillington, Ayrshire.
1925. STIRLING, Major ARCHIBALD, Garden, Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire.
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1900. SWINTON, Captain GEORGE S. C., 45 Sussex Gardens, London, W. 2.
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1917. TAYLOR, FRANK J., Assistant Secretary, Young Men's Christian Association, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
1924. TAYLOR, ROBERT, Duntrune, Milngavie.
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- 1906.\*THOMSON, DAVID COUPER, J.P., D.L., Inveravon, Broughty Ferry.
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1921. THOMSON, THOMAS SAMUEL, 18 Rothesay Place.
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1898. THORBURN, MICHAEL GRIEVE, Glenormiston, Innerleithen.
1911. THORBURN, Lt.-Col. WILLIAM, O.B.E., Boreland, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.
1907. THORP, JOHN THOMAS, LL D., Brunswick House, 54 Princess Road, Leicester.
1924. TOD, WILLIAM A., 104 Melrose Avenue, Wimbledon Park, London, S.W.
- 1902.\*TRAILL, H. LIONEL NORTON, F.R.G.S., Capt. 4th Highland Light Infantry, Grattan Lodge, Vicars-town, Stradbally, Queen's County, Ireland.
1917. TRAILL, WILLIAM, C.E., Tankerness House, Kirkwall, Orkney.
1922. TROTTER, GEORGE CLARK, M.D., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Aberd.), F.R.S.E., "Braemar," Haslemere Road, Crouch End, London, N. 8.
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 1921. URQUHART, EDWARD A., 11 Queensferry Street.  
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 1905.\*USHER, SIR ROBERT, Bart., of Norton and Wells,  
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- 1920.\*VARMA, Professor S. P., M.A., of Robertson  
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 1922. VEITCH, HENRY NEWTON, 30 Coleherne Court,  
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 1922. VOGEL, Mrs. 4 Cluny Avenue.
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 1921. WADDELL, J. JEFFREY, Architect, Caldergrove  
 Hallside, Lanarkshire.  
 1909. WALKER, JOHN, M.A., c/o Messrs Bowie & Pinker-  
 ton, S.S.C., 2 Stafford Street.  
 1924. WALKER, W. GLASSFORD, C.A., 2 Denham Green  
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 1879. WALLACE, THOMAS, Ardlui, Lovat Road  
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 1915. WARD, The Venerable Archdeacon ALGERNON,  
 M.A. (Cantab.), F.R.S.L., F.R.G.S., The  
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 1921. WARD, EDWIN, Keeper of the Art and Ethno-  
 logical Departments, Royal Scottish Museum,  
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 1917. WARNER, Rev. GRAHAM NICOLL, M.A., The  
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 1904. WATSON, WALTER CRUM, B.A. Oxon., Northfield,  
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 1879. WEDDERBURN, J. R. M., M.A., W.S., 3 Glencarn  
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 1925. WELCH, JAMES MUILO, S.S.C., 21 Mayfield Terrace.  
 1884.\*WHITE, CECIL, 23 Drummond Place.  
 1914. WHITE, GEORGE DUNCAN, Castle Garden, Crail.  
 1904. WHITE, JAMES, St Winnin's, Bearsden, Dumbart-  
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 1903. WHITELAW, ALEXANDER, Gartshore, Kirkintil-  
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 1902.\*WHITELAW, CHARLES EDWARD, I.A., The Laurels,  
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 1907. WHITELAW, HARRY VINCENT, Fair Lawn, South-  
 field Road, Paignton, Devon.  
 1909. WHITTAKER, CHARLES RICHARD, F.R.C.S.,  
 F.R.S.E., Lynwood, 27 Hatton Place.  
 1913. WHITTAKER, Professor EDMUND T., M.A., Hon.  
 D.Sc., F.R.S., 35 George Square.  
 1923. WHYTE, WILLIAM, P.O. Box 1831, Johannesburg,  
 S. Africa.  
 1921. WILKIE, ALEXANDER, 14 Ravelston Park.  
 1908. WILKIE, JAMES, B.L., S.S.C., 108 George  
 Street.  
 1895. WILLIAMS, Rev. GEORGE, Minister of Norriston  
 U.F. Church, Thornhill, Southng.  
 1897. WILLIAMS, H. MALLAM, Tilehurst, Southern  
 Road, Southbourne, Hants.  
 1908. WILSON, ANDREW ROBERTSON, M.A., M.D.,  
 23 Rose-de Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.  
 1923.\*WILSON, Rev. S. GORDON F., M.A., B.Litt.,  
 A.K.C., F.R.Hist.S., St Nicholas' Rectory,  
 Canterbury.  
 1913. WILSON, Rev. THOMAS, B.D., The Manse, Stow,  
 Midlothian.  
 1921. WILSON, WILLIAM, Regius Professor of Public  
 Law, The University, Edinburgh.  
 1912. WILSON, Rev. W. B. ROBERTSON, Strathdevon,  
 Dollar.

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|---|--|
| 1916. WINDUST, Mrs ESTHER, Sidi-Bou-Saïd, near<br>Tunis, N. Africa.<br>1920. WISHART, DAVID, Pittarrow, Abernethy, Perth-<br>shire.<br>1922. WOOD, J. R., 51 Montgomerie Street, Kelvinside<br>N., Glasgow.<br>1907. WOOD, WILLIAM JAMES, J.P., 46 Queen Square,<br>Glasgow.<br>1903. WRIGHT, Rev. FREDERICK G., D.D., Barholm<br>Vicarage, Stamford. | 1925. WYNESS, J. FENTON. 45 Salisbury Terrace.<br>Aberdeen.<br><br>1913. YOUNG, THOMAS E., W.S., Auchterarder.<br>1924. YOUNGER, HARRY J., Harmeny, Balerno. Mid<br>lothian.<br>1912.*YULE, THOMAS, W.S., 16 East Claremont<br>Street. |
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## SUBSCRIBING LIBRARIES, ETC.

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| American Philosophical Society.<br>Baillie's Institution, Glasgow.<br>Birmingham Public Libraries—Reference Depart-<br>ment.<br>Chicago University Library, Chicago, U.S.A.<br>*Columbia University.<br>Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., U.S.A.<br>Department of British and Mediæval Antiquities,<br>British Museum.<br>Detroit Public Library, Detroit, U.S.A.<br>Falkirk Natural History and Archæological Society.<br>Free Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.<br>Harvard College, U.S.A.<br>Institute of Accountants and Actuaries in Glasgow.<br>John Rylands Library, Manchester.<br>National Museum of Wales, Cardiff | New York Public Library, New York.<br>Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia, U.S.A.<br>Public Library, Aberdeen.<br>Public Library, Dundee.<br>Public Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.<br>Reform Club, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1.<br>State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison,<br>Wisconsin, U.S.A.<br>University College, Dublin.<br>University Library, Leeds.<br>University of Michigan.<br>University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.,<br>U.S.A.<br>Victoria University of Manchester.<br>Yale University Library, New Haven, Connecticut,<br>U.S.A. |
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LIST OF THE CORRESPONDING MEMBERS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

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NOVEMBER 30, 1925.

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| 1923. BLACK, GEORGE F., Ph.D., New York Public Library, New York City, U.S.A. | 1915. MATHIESON, JOHN, F.R.S.E., 42 East Claremont Street.                     |
| 1922. FAIRBAIRN, ARCHIBALD, Wellwood, Muirkirk, Ayrshire.                     | 1915. MORRISON, MURDO, Lakefield, Bragar, Lewis.                               |
| 1913. FRASER, JOHN, 68 Restalrig Road, Leith.                                 | 1924. MUIR, WILLIAM T., Brenda, Evie, Orkney.                                  |
| 1911. GOUDIE, JAS. M., J.P., Lerwick, Shetland.                               | 1911. NICOLSON, JOHN, Nybster, Auchengill, by Wick, Caithness.                 |
| 1913. LEVY, Mrs N., Red Gables, Carson College, Flourtown, Pa., U.S.A.        | 1921. URQUHART, ANDREW, M.A., J.P., The Schoolhouse, Bonar Bridge, Sutherland. |
| 1908. MACKENZIE, WILLIAM, Procurator-Fiscal, Dingwall.                        |  |



LIST OF HONORARY FELLOWS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,  
NOVEMBER 30, 1925.

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[According to the Laws, the number is limited to TWENTY-FIVE.]

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1897.

Sir W. M. FLINDERS PETRIE, D.C.L., LL.D., F.B.A., F.R.S., Edwards Professor of Egyptology in University College, London, W.C. 1.

Dr SOPHUS MÜLLER, Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, and Director of the National Museum, Copenhagen.

1908.

Sir ARTHUR JOHN EVANS, M.A., D.C.L., Youlbury, near Oxford.

SALOMON REINACH, Director of the National Museum of Antiquities of France, St Germain-en-Laye.

5 Professor H. DRAGENDORFF, Freiburg i. Baden, Johan von Weirhstrasse 4.

Professor E. RITTERLING, Director of the Römisch-Germanische Kommission, Dotzheimerstrasse 38II Wiesbaden.

1919.

LÉON COUTIL, Correspondant du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, etc., etc., Les Andelys, Eure, France.

RENÉ CAGNAT, Secrétaire Perpétuel de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Professeur au Collège de France, Palais de l'Institut (3 rue Mazarine), Paris.

1921.

The Right Rev. Bishop G. F. BROWNE, 2 Campden House Road, Kensington, London, W. 8.

1923.

- 10 M. L'ABBÉ H. BREUIL, D.L.C., Professeur à l'Institut de Paléontologie Humaine, Paris, 110 Rue Demours, Paris.
- Professor FRANZ CUMONT, 19 Corso d'Italia, Rome.
- G. F. HILL, M.A., F.B.A., LL.D., Keeper of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London, W.C. 1.
- Dr BERNHARD SALIN, State Antiquary-in-Chief, Stockholm.
- FRANK GERALD SIMPSON, 37 West Street, Scarborough.
- 15 Mrs ARTHUR STRONG, Litt.D., LL.D., F.S.A., Life-Fellow of Girton College, Cambridge, and Assistant Director of the British School at Rome, Valle Giulia, Rome
- A. M. TALLGREN, Professor Universitetet, Helsingfors, Finland.

LIST OF THE LADY ASSOCIATES  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,  
NOVEMBER 30, 1925.

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[*According to the Laws, the number is limited to TWENTY-FIVE.*]

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1894.

Miss EMMA SWANN, Walton Manor, Oxford.

1900.

Miss M. A. MURRAY, Edwards Library, University College, London, W.C. 1.  
3 Mrs E. S. ARMITAGE, Westholm, Rawdon, Leeds.

## SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS, &c., EXCHANGING PUBLICATIONS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Architectural, Archæological, and Historic Society<br/>of Chester and North Wales.<br/>Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.<br/>Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society.<br/>British Archæological Association.<br/>Buchan Field Club.<br/>Buteshire Natural History Society.<br/>Cambrian Archæological Association.<br/>Cambridge Antiquarian Society.<br/>Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society.<br/>Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and<br/>Archæological Society.<br/>Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History<br/>Association.<br/>Dumfriesshire Natural History and Antiquarian<br/>Society.<br/>Edinburgh Architectural Association.<br/>Elgin Literary and Scientific Society.<br/>Essex Archæological Society.<br/>Gaelic Society of Inverness.<br/>Geological Society of Edinburgh.<br/>Glasgow Archæological Society.<br/>Hampshire Field Club and Archæological Society.<br/>Hawick Archæological Society.<br/>Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.<br/>Institute of Archæology, Liverpool<br/>Kent Archæological Society.<br/>New Spalding Club.<br/>Perthshire Society of Natural Science.<br/>Royal Anthropological Institute.<br/>Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain<br/>and Ireland.<br/>Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical<br/>Monuments of Scotland.<br/>Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical<br/>Monuments and Constructions in Wales and<br/>Monmouthshire</p> | <p>Royal Historical Society.<br/>Royal Irish Academy.<br/>Royal Numismatic Society.<br/>Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.<br/>Scottish Ecclesiological Society.<br/>Shropshire Archæological Society.<br/>Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies.<br/>Society of Antiquaries of London.<br/>Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.<br/>Society of Architects.<br/>Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History<br/>Society.<br/>Stirling Natural History and Archæological Society.<br/>Surrey Archæological Society.<br/>Sussex Archæological Society.<br/>Thoresby Society.<br/>Viking Club.<br/>Wiltshire Archæological Society.<br/>Yorkshire Archæological Society.</p> <p>Archæological Survey of India.<br/>British School at Rome.<br/>Colombo Museum, Ceylon.<br/>Provincial Museum, Toronto, Canada.<br/>Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto.<br/>University Museum, Dunedin, New Zealand.</p> |
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### FOREIGN SOCIETIES, UNIVERSITIES, MUSEUMS, &c.

- Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, Paris  
Alterthumsgesellschaft, Königsberg.  
Anthropologische Gesellschaft, Vienna.  
Antiquarische Gesellschaft, Zürich.  
Bosnisch-Herzegovinisches Landes-Museum, Sara-  
jevo.

Bureau of Ethnology, Washington.  
 California University.  
 Commissione Archeologica Comunale di Roma.  
 Cornell University Library, Ithaca, New York.  
 Ecole d'Anthropologie de Paris.  
 Faculté des Sciences de Lyon.  
 Foreningen til Norske Fortidsminde-merkens  
   Bevaring.  
 Gesellschaft für Nützliche Forschungen, Trier.  
 Göteborg och Bohusläns Fornminnesföreningen.  
 Göttingen University.  
 Historische und Antiquarische Gesellschaft, Basel.  
 Historische Verein für Niedersachsen.  
 Institut de Paléontologie Humaine, Paris.  
 Junta Superior de Excavaciones y Antigüedades,  
   Madrid.  
 Junta Para Ampliación de Estudios—Comision de  
   Investigaciones Paleontológicas y Prehistóricas,  
   Madrid.  
 Kiel University.  
 Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskab, Trondhjem.  
 Leipzig University.  
 Musée Guimet, Paris.  
 Musée National Suisse à Zürich.  
 Museum, Bergen, Norway.  
 Museum of Northern Antiquities, Oslo.  
 National Bohemian Museum, Prague, Czecho-  
   Slovakia.  
 National Museum, Zagreb, Yugoslavia.  
 Nordiska Museet, Stockholm.  
 Norsk Folkemuseum, Oslo, Norway.  
 Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft,  
   Berlin.  
 Oslo University, Norway.  
 Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.  
 Prähistorische Kommission der Kaiserliche  
   Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien.  
 Reale Accademia dei Lincei, Rome.  
 Rijks-Museum van Oudheden, Leiden.  
 Römisch-Germanische Kommission des Deut-  
   schen Archaeologischen Instituts, Frankfurt  
   am Main.  
 Royal Academy of History and Antiquities,  
   Stockholm.  
 Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copen-  
   hagen.  
 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.A.  
 Societa Romana di Antropologia, Rome.  
 Société d'Anthropologie de Paris.

Société des Antiquaires de l'Ouest.  
 Société Archéologique d'Alexandrie.  
 Société Archéologique de Constantine, Algeria.  
 Société Archéologique du Midi de la France.  
 Société Archéologique de Montpellier.  
 Société Archéologique de Moravie.  
 Société Archéologique de Namur.  
 Société des Bollandistes, Brussels.  
 Société des Sciences de Semur (*Pro Alesia*).  
 Société Finlandaise d'Archéologie, Helsingfors.  
 Société d'Histoire et d'Archéologie de Gand.  
 Société Nationale des Antiquaires de France.  
 Société Préhistorique Polonaise.  
 Société Royale d'Archéologie de Bruxelles.  
 Städtisches Museum für Volkerkunde, Leipzig.  
 University Library, Tartu, Esthonia.  
 Upsala University.  
 Verein für Nassauische Alterthumskunde, Wies-  
   baden.  
 Verein von Alterthumsfreunden im Rheinlande,  
   Bonn.  
 Wiener Præhistorische Gesellschaft.

#### PERIODICALS.

*L'Anthropologie*, Paris.  
*Bulletin archéologique polonais*, Warsaw.

#### LIBRARIES, BRITISH.

Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.  
 Athenæum Club Library, London.  
 Bodleian Library, Oxford.  
 British Museum Library.  
 Chetham's Library, Manchester.  
 Faculty of Procurators' Library, Glasgow.  
 Free Library, Edinburgh.  
 Free Library, Liverpool.  
 Mitchell Library, Glasgow.  
 National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.  
 Ordnance Survey Library, Southampton.  
 Public Record Office Library, London.  
 Royal Library, Windsor.  
 Royal Scottish Museum Library, Edinburgh.  
 Scottish National Portrait Gallery Library.  
 Scottish Record Office, Historical Department.  
 Signet Library, Edinburgh.  
 Trinity College Library, Dublin.  
 United Free Church College Library, Edinburgh.

University Library, Aberdeen.  
 University Library, Cambridge.  
 University Library, Edinburgh.  
 • University Library, Glasgow.  
 University Library, St Andrews.  
 Victoria and Albert Museum Library, London

## LIBRARIES, FOREIGN.

Bayerische Staats-bibliothek, Munich, Bavaria

Bibliothèque d'Art et d'Archéologie, Université de  
 Paris.  
 National Library, Paris.  
 National Library, Vienna.  
 Newberry Library, Chicago, U.S.A.  
 Preussische Staats-bibliothek, Berlin.  
 Public Library, Hamburg.  
 Royal Library, Copenhagen.  
 Royal Library, Stockholm.  
 Sächsische Landes-bibliothek, Dresden.



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

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HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH SESSION, 1924-1925

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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 1st December 1924.

GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., D.LITT.,  
in the Chair.

James MacLehose, LL.D., and John W. M. Loney were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for Office-Bearers.

The Ballot having been concluded, the Scrutineers found and declared the List of the Council for the ensuing year to be as follows:—

*President.*

His Grace The DUKE OF ATHOLL, K.T., C.B., M.V.O., D.S.O., LL.D.

*Vice-Presidents.*

Sir ANDREW N. AGNEW, Bart.  
Lieut.-Col. W. ANSTRUTHER-GRAY.  
JOHN BRUCE.



*Councillors.*

Sir JOHN R. FINDLAY, K.B.E., LL.D.	} <i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>	JAMES GARSON, W.S.
The Hon. HEW HAMIL- TON DALRYMPLE.		JAMES S. RICHARDSON.
Sir JAMES ADAM, C.B.E.	} <i>Representing the Treasury.</i>	THOMAS YULE, W.S.
Colonel CHARLES L. SPENCER, C.B.E., D.S.O.		VICTOR A. NOEL PATON, W.S.
Brigadier-General R. G. GORDON- GILMOUR, C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.		Professor THOMAS H. BRYCE, M.D., F.R.S.
		GEORGE MACKAY, M.D.
		ROBERT CROSS.

*Secretaries.*

G. P. H. WATSON. | DOUGLAS P. MACLAGAN, W.S.

*For Foreign Correspondence.*

The Rev. Professor A. H. SAYCE, M.A., | Professor G. BALDWIN BROWN, LL.D.  
LL.D., D.D.

*Treasurer.*

J. BOLAM JOHNSON, C.A.

*Curators of the Museum.*

JAMES CURLE, W.S. | ALEXANDER O. CURLE.

*Curator of Coins.*

GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., D.Litt.

*Librarian.*

WILLIAM K. DICKSON, LL.D.

A Ballot having been taken, WILLIAM T. MUIR, Brenda, Evie, Orkney, was elected a Corresponding Member, and the following were duly elected Fellows:—

ALEXANDER MACDONALD BISSET, Bertha Cottage, Bathgate.  
CHARLES HERBERT BROWN, K.C., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Advocates,  
Sheriff of Dumfries and Galloway, 17 Northumberland Street.  
H. DUNSCOMBE COLT, Cavendish Club, 119 Piccadilly, London, W.1.  
JAMES CRUICKSHANK, Westwood, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire.  
GEORGE DAVIDSON, 8 Thistle Street, Aberdeen.  
Rev. EDWARD J. F. DAVIES, F.Ph.S., F.Z.S.Scot., F.B.S.A., 42 Laycock,  
nr. Keighley, Yorkshire.

# ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

3

Brigadier-General W. C. DOUGLAS, C.B., D.S.O., J.P. and D.L. for the County of Forfar, Brighton, Douglastown, by Forfar.

JOHN W. M. DUDING, L.S.A., A.I.Arch.(Scot.), 71 Great King Street.

JOHN GIBSON, 19 Pilrig Street, Leith.

Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D., The Manse, Kenmore, Perthshire.

WILFRID J. HEMP, F.S.A., Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Wales, Minshull, High Wycombe, Bucks.

HARRY LUMSDEN, M.A., LL.B., J.P., 105 West George Street, Glasgow.

JOHN M'CORMICK, 67 Queenshill Street, Springburn, Glasgow.

LANGFORD H. MACKELCKEN, L.R.I.B.A., 8 Bedford Square, London, W.C. 1.

Sir JOHN LORNE MACLEOD, G.B.E., LL.D., 72 Great King Street.

Rev. JAMES MEIKLE, B.D., The Manse, Alyth.

JOHN M. PURVES, M.C., 39 Spottiswoode Street.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Duntrune, Milngavie.

WILLIAM A. TOD, 104 Melrose Avenue, Wimbledon Park, London, S.W.

JAMES KENNEDY TULLIS, Baingle Brae, Tullibody, by Stirling.

CHARLES B. WATERSTON, 25 Howard Place.

MARTYN WEBSTER, 5 Newton Terrace, Glasgow, W.

The Secretary read the following list of Members deceased since the last Annual Meeting:—

## *Honorary Fellow.*

	Elected.
Rev. S. BARING GOULD, Lew Trenchard, North Devon . . . . .	1900

## *Corresponding Member.*

	Elected.
JAMES SMITH, Mumrills, Falkirk . . . . .	1924

## *Fellows.*

	Elected.
The Right Hon. LORD ABERCROMBY of Aboukir and Tullibody, LL.D., 62 Palmerston Place . . . . .	1879
ALEXANDER G. W. ARBUCKLE, The Elms, Bridge-of-Earn . . . . .	1921
EDWARD J. BROOK, Hoddon Castle, Ecclefechan . . . . .	1904
J. A. CAMERON, M.D., Firhall, Nairn . . . . .	1887
KENNETH COCHRANE, Newfaan Isle, Galashiels . . . . .	1914
Sir HUGH W. DRUMMOND of Hawthornden, The Chase, Churt, Farn- ham, Surrey . . . . .	1912
Sir JAMES R. FERGUSON, Bart., of Spitalhaugh, West Linton . . . . .	1875
The Very Rev. GEORGE GRUB, late Provost of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, 18 Learmonth Terrace . . . . .	1871
Rev. J. EDGAR HATCH, D.D., Davington Parsonage, Market Place, Faversham, Kent . . . . .	1906
JAMES T. HAY, Blackhall Castle, Banchory . . . . .	1874

#### 4 PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, DECEMBER 1, 1924.

	Elected.
BRAMLEY B. KENT, Tatefield Hall, Beckwithshaw, Harrogate . . . . .	1907
Sir PETER JEFFREY MACKIE, Bart., of Glenreadell and Corraith, Symington, Lanarkshire . . . . .	1911
GEORGE MACPHAIL, F.Z.S., Hearnesebrooke, Co. Galway . . . . .	1918
Sir WILLIAM MARTIN, J.P., 24 Athole Gardens, Kelvinside, Glasgow . . . . .	1916
THEODORE NAPIER, Magdala, Woodland Street, Essendon, Melbourne, Australia . . . . .	1896
Sir ROBERT RUSSELL SIMPSON, W.S., 23 Douglas Crescent . . . . .	1880
Rev. J. E. SOMERVILLE, D.D., Castellar, Crieff . . . . .	1892
Rev. ALEXANDER DUFF WATSON, B.D., 433 Great Western Road, Aberdeen . . . . .	1891
JOHN WATSON, Architect, 27 Rutland Street . . . . .	1904

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the death of these members.

The Secretary read the following Report by the Council on the affairs of the Society:—

The Council beg to submit to the Fellows of the Society their Report for the year ending 30th November 1924.

*Fellowship.*—The total number of Fellows on the roll at 30th November 1923 was . . . . . 824  
At 30th November 1924 the number was . . . . . 856  
being an increase of . . . . . 32

There were 62 new Fellows added to the roll, and 19 died, 7 resigned, and 4 allowed their membership to lapse. While the Council feel that the manner in which the membership of the Society is being maintained and yearly augmented is extremely satisfactory, they hope that Fellows will not relax their efforts to induce suitable candidates to present themselves for election.

The Council desire to record their sense of the great loss which they and the Society have sustained in the death of Lord Abercromby, which occurred at his residence, 62 Palmerston Place, on 7th October, and which removes from our list of Fellows a notable scholar, an erudite antiquary, and one who was for many years an active member of our Council. Lord Abercromby—to give him his full title, Baron Abercromby of Aboukir and Tullibody—was born in 1841, and had thus reached his 84th year at the date of his death. Originally, following the Army as a profession, he held a Commission in the Rifle Brigade, but, after seven years of service, seeing little prospect of

promotion on active service, he sent in his papers. From his youth upwards he had been greatly interested in art and archaeology, and never lost an opportunity, when serving in foreign stations, of visiting any notable places which lay within his reach. In a brief autobiography which he has left in manuscript, he tells how in 1860, while still in his teens, he went on a walking tour through Italy, apparently alone, crossing the main ridge of the Apennines, visiting Rome and Florence, as well as all the Etruscan cities which he could find *en route*. He early developed a gift for languages; philology and archaeology became the motive forces which sent him, year in, year out, for long periods of foreign travel in Europe and elsewhere. Italian, French, and Spanish he had learned while young; to these he presently added German, Old Irish, Finnish, and a working knowledge of Russian. He travelled through the Caucasus, and published an account of his tour, *A Trip through the Eastern Caucasus*, with an Appendix and an Abstract of the grammar of seven of the languages of that region compiled from translations of Shiefner. To the study of the Finns and their tongue he devoted several years, and produced in 1898 a learned work entitled *The Pre- and Proto-Historic Finns*. In 1892 he came to reside in Edinburgh, and forthwith associated himself actively with the work of this Society, of which he had already been a Fellow for a considerable time. Realising how great was the field of archaeological research unexplored in Scotland, he generously contributed for several years a substantial sum annually to enable work to be carried out on native and Roman sites, and it was through his instrumentality that the explorations at Dunadd, Inchtuthil, and Castlecary were accomplished. For archaeology to be a valuable aid to the study of history, he realised how necessary it was that all excavations should be conducted on scientific principles, and early in the day pressed strongly for the use of the riddle and for the accurate location of finds.

His great work, the result of many years of travel and visits to museums at home and abroad, is embodied in two volumes entitled *Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland*. This was a pioneer work, being a serious attempt to relegate to their proper chronological positions the various types of Bronze Age ceramics, and, if the whole of his conclusions may not now hold good in the light of the most recent archaeological research, his book, with its wealth of detail and copious illustrations, must always remain of great value.

Lord Abercromby was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1879, and served as an ordinary member of the Council from 1894 until 1897, when he became a Vice-President. On demitting this office in 1900, he

was appointed a Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, and in 1901 a Secretary, a post which he held for four years. In 1913 he became President, and held office until 1918, when the Society again elected him to the Council. He attended our meetings regularly, and contributed freely to the *Proceedings* of the Society; of his many papers, perhaps the most important are the "History of the Site of the Roman Station at Inchtuthil, and Description of the Excavations," published in 1908, and his "Proposed Chronological Arrangement of the Beaker Class of Fictilia in Britain," of 1904, which was followed, in 1907, by a paper on "The Relative Chronology of some Cinerary Urn Types."

We cannot conclude without paying a tribute to his social qualities. He was eminently hospitable, and loved to gather round his table groups of friends with kindred tastes, and to entertain any eminent archæologist who, in the course of his work, might come to Edinburgh. He is survived by an only daughter, now Madame Nasos, and with his death the title becomes extinct.

By the death of the Rev. S. Baring Gould, elected in 1900, the Society has lost a distinguished Honorary Fellow. Though best known, possibly, by his novels and his theological works, Mr Baring Gould was no mean historian, and both at home and abroad he engaged in archæological researches which have materially added to the store of antiquarian knowledge.

Mr Theodore Napier was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1896, and took a deep interest in its affairs so long as he remained in Scotland. He was an intensely patriotic Scot and ardent Nationalist, and made a particular study of the Jacobite period.

Mr James Smith of Mumrills Farm, Falkirk, who was elected a Corresponding Member so recently as the February meeting of the past session, died very suddenly in May. He was keenly interested in the discoveries of relics of the Roman occupation made on the farm from time to time, and he rendered yeoman service to the Society last winter during the tentative exploration of the site.

*Proceedings.*—An advance copy of the *Proceedings* is on the table, the number of papers being 25, as against 22 in the previous year. Of the 25 papers, 16 deal with prehistoric and 9 with historic subjects embracing a wide range. Among the prehistoric papers, 7 deal with burials and burial goods. In his description of a long cairn at Gourdon, Kincardineshire, the Director of the Museum describes the first long cairn brought to the notice of the Society in the north-east of Scotland; while Professor Reid and the Rev. J. R. Fraser have

recorded a Bronze Age short cist at Catterline in the same county, remarkable in having two of the cover-stones chiselled, and wrought respectively with a perforation and with two concentric rings or spirals. A cinerary urn showing unusual decoration, found at Muirkirk in association with a bone pin, a bronze awl, and an incense-cup urn peculiarly pierced, is described by Mr Archibald Fairbairn; while Mr J. Hewat Craw places on record an Early Iron Age burial at Burnmouth, Berwickshire, which contained, besides skeletal remains, an iron knife of unusual shape and two bronze spoons, the latter being the first examples of this particular class of object found in Scotland. In a second paper Mr Craw has traced the extent of the Catrail.

Papers dealing with antiquities in Strathfillan and the parish of Gairloch are furnished by Mr A. D. Lacaille and Mr William Thomson respectively. A paper by Mr Robert Kinghorn on stone and flint implements found on Foulden Moorpark Farm, Berwickshire, is particularly valuable as recording a complete series of these implements collected on a small area. Two articles deal with earth-houses. In the first, Mr Edwards, the Assistant Keeper of the Museum, describes the excavation of a group of earth-houses at Galson, Lewis, which revealed important structural remains and yielded relics of stone, bone, and pottery; while in the second Mr Fairbairn gives an account of an earth-house near Carnwath—the first recorded in that part of the country. A sculptured symbol-stone and a stone bearing, amongst other markings, an incised human figure, which were recently discovered in Orkney, are discussed by Mr Hugh Marwick. The excavations on Traprain Law conducted by the Society during the summer of 1923, which again yielded structural remains and a good harvest of relics, are described by Mr James E. Cree, to whom the Society are once more indebted for his continuous and most careful supervision of the work.

Among the articles treating of historic subjects, special mention may be made of Mr A. O. Curle's account of four silver spoons found with a gold fillet in the Nunnery, Iona; after examining the various indications of date, Mr Curle assigns the spoons to round about the thirteenth century. The important series of Scottish fourteenth-century ring-brooches preserved in the National Museum has been collated and described by the Director, who points out that such brooches were the precursors of the well-known circular Highland brooches. Dr W. Douglas Simpson has contributed an account of his excavation of Coull Castle, Aberdeenshire, which has revealed the remains of one of the largest and most formidable thirteenth-century castles in Scotland. One of the most notable discoveries was a pit

before the gate, in which lay the charred remains of the drawbridge, while other parts afforded similar evidence of deliberate destruction. The rarity of old carved woodwork in Scotland lends particular value to the paper by Mr Charles E. Whitelaw on four pieces of carved woodwork from Stirling Castle. A detailed and reliable account of seventeenth-century social life and manners is afforded by the Inventory of the Plenishing of the House of The Binns in September 1685, edited by Sir James Dalryell of The Binns, in collaboration with Mr James Beveridge.

*The Museum.*—During the past summer one-half of the new wall-cases has been provided for the Comparative Gallery, and the remaining half will probably be installed early next year. Meantime, the arrangement of the relics in this gallery is being proceeded with as quickly as possible.

The number of objects added to the National Collection during the year amounts to 474 by donation and 21 by purchase.

Among the donations specially to be noted are a collection of arrow-heads and implements of flint from Caithness, presented by Mr David Murray; a further collection of relics from the earth-house at Galson, Lewis, by Mr J. Morrison and Mr Norman Mackay; a very fine symbol-stone, found at Greens, Orkney, presented by Mr D. Laughton; and the important cross-slab found at Woodwray, Forfarshire, and long preserved at Abbotsford, presented by Lieut.-Colonel Maxwell Scott through Mr James Curle.

Interesting additions were made to the Bronze Age collections by Mr Cadell of Grange, who presented two food-vessel urns found at Bridgeness; by Major and Mrs Broun Lindsay, who gave the cinerary urn and other relics found in a cairn in Muirkirk; by Mr James Mackenzie, who is the donor of a bronze flanged axe from Kinrossshire; and by Mr James S. Richardson, who presented the hoard of bronze objects from Wester Ord, Ross-shire.

A handsome old punch-bowl and ladle of Edinburgh silver, presented by Major H. Seton Lefroy Stein, makes a welcome addition to a department which is poorly represented in the Museum. The same may be said of Mr W. L. Ferguson's gift of Communion Tokens, as the Society's collection of such a peculiarly Scottish type of object is not so representative as it should be in the National Museum.

Two early seventeenth-century silver spoons, made in Edinburgh, and the top of a cane of the same metal, found in Irvine, and another silver spoon of about the same date, found in Haddington, were acquired through the King's Remembrancer.

*Excavations.*—The Council reappointed the old Mumrills Committee, comprising Sir John R. Findlay, Mr James Curle, Mr A. O. Curle, and Dr George Macdonald, along with the secretaries, to undertake a preliminary • exploration of the Roman sites at Mumrills Farm, Falkirk. Excavation commenced in December 1923 with a small staff of labourers working under the immediate superintendence of the late Mr James Smith of Mumrills Farm, and continued until this autumn. The western ditches and gateway of the Antonine Fort have been successfully located, and various ditches belonging to other systems of fortifications not yet clearly determined have likewise been explored; foundations were discovered beyond the limits of the Antonine defences which could not be exhaustively examined within the time available, owing to the great depth of covering soil.

The amount of pottery recovered was remarkable; although the bulk of it dates from the Antonine occupation, certain shards are undoubtedly Agricolaean. A very beautiful dress-fastener and certain other objects of bronze and iron were unearthed, but these, generally, were in poor condition, owing to the nature of the subsoil.

It is an unfortunate circumstance that this site is on valuable agricultural land, as this makes continuous operations impossible. At the same time, its proximity to Falkirk renders it liable to feuing in the immediate future. Meanwhile, the Council would make grateful acknowledgment of the readiness with which the owner of the site, Mr Forbes of Callendar, granted the necessary permission to excavate, as well as of the unwearying help and kindness which the tenants have extended to the Committee throughout the enterprise.

The Council at the same time desire to express their indebtedness and thanks to the Haverfield Bequest Committee of the University of Oxford for a grant of £100, and to Mr John Bruce for a similar donation; without these contributions the excavations could not have been undertaken.

A grant of £10 was given to Professor Bryce to enable him to carry out the exploration of the long cairn known as the Mutiny Stones in Berwickshire.

*The Gunning Fellowship.*—The Gunning Fellowship for 1924 was conferred on Mr A. J. H. Edwards, F.S.A.Scot., Assistant Keeper of the Museum, to enable him to investigate a kitchen-midden and earth-houses at Galson, Lewis. Mr Edwards was successful in laying bare a group of underground structures and in securing a good selection of relics.

*The Library.*—Besides the numerous publications of learned societies, etc., received by way of exchange and by subscription, 71 books have been



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added to the Library by donation and 11 by purchase, as were also 29 manuscripts.

*The Rhind Lectureship.*—The Rhind Lecturer for 1924 is Professor Thomas H. Bryce, his subject being the Early Races of Scotland. His lectures will be delivered in March next.

Mr W. M. Mackenzie, F.S.A.Scot., has been appointed Lecturer for 1925. He will lecture on the Historical Development of Civil and Military Architecture in Scotland.

*The Chalmers-Jervise Prize.*—The County of Fife was chosen as the area for the Chalmers-Jervise Prize Essay for 1924. The competition was again widely advertised, but the response has once more been extremely disappointing, as only one essay was received. This essay, entitled "Some Vestiges of Forgotten Fife—The Caves of Wemyss," was sent in by Mrs J. Patrick Findlay, to whom the prize was awarded.

ATHOLL,  
*President.*

The Report was adopted on the motion of Sir James Balfour Paul, C.V.O., LL.D., seconded by John Edwards, LL.D.

Mr J. Bolam Johnson, Treasurer, read the annual statement of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the members. On the motion of the Chairman a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Johnson for his gratuitous services.

MONDAY, 8th December 1924.

SIR ANDREW N. AGNEW, BART., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

DUNCAN CAMPBELL, Oakdale, 98 Burbage Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. 24.

BRIAN C. CLAYTON, 53 Hanover Street.

ALEXANDER CULLEN, A.R.I.B.A., 14 Hamilton Park Terrace, Glasgow, W. 2.

GEORGE GREGORY, Architect, Green Den, Stonehaven.

Miss HELEN LINGARD GUTHRIE, Carnoustie House, Carnoustie.

JOHN B. LAW, A.C.P., 49 Margaret Street, Greenock.

Rev. DONALD R. MACKAY, Free Church Manse, Renton, Dumbartonshire.

PETER MACDOUGALL PULLAR, 92 Kirkcaldy Road, Maxwell Park, Glasgow, S. 1.

DOUGLAS M. RAMSAY, Bowland, Stow, Midlothian.

The following Donations to the Museum, received during the recess, 12th May to 30th November, were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Box of Hydrostatic Balls of glass for testing spirits.

(2) By JAMES MACKENZIE, J.P., F.S.A.Scot.

Button Mould of hematite, measuring  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{5}{16}$  inches by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, with a matrix for a button on each face, from Dumfries.

Flanged Bronze Axe, measuring  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length,  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches across the cutting edge, and  $1\frac{5}{32}$  inch across the flanges; it has deep stop-ridges and a slightly raised semi-elliptical moulding with a central rib in front of each stop-ridge, and about the centre of the top and bottom sides is a slight transverse raised moulding, found about fifty years ago on Tilliery Hill, Kinross-shire.

Fragment of a Bronze Spear-head found at Dalswinton, Dumfriesshire.

(3) By ALEXANDER J. TROTTER of Colinton House.

Speaker's Chair, upholstered in green morocco leather, occupied during the period between the burning of the Houses of Parliament in 1834 and their reopening, by the Hon. James Abercromby (afterwards

Lord Dunfermline), Speaker of the House of Commons, grandfather of the donor. On the back of the chair is a brass plate inscribed: This Chair was occupied | By | The Hon<sup>ble</sup> James Abercromby | when Speaker of the House of Commons During the Session of Parliament in | 1835, 1836, 1837 | and on its dissolution became The Property of the Speaker | according to ancient custom.

(4) By Miss HELEN C. MILLER, late of Pirniefield House, Seafield.

Pair of Scales for weighing guineas and half-guineas, in a japanned metal case, which belonged to John Lawrie, Goldsmith, Edinburgh, grandfather of the donor.

(5) By RALPH HALIBURTON, East Mains, Gordon, Berwickshire.

Stone Hammer, rounded at both ends, measuring  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches in length, and tapering from  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter at the face to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch at the butt end, the perforation for the handle being  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch in diameter, found in a grass field next to the Harefoot Bridge, to the west of the Gordon-Kelso road, on the farm of East Mains, Gordon, Berwickshire.

(6) By H. M. CADELL, F.S.A.Scot.

Food-vessel, measuring  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches in height,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches in external diameter at the mouth,  $7\frac{5}{8}$  inches at the bulge, and  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches at the base, found in a short cist with unburnt human remains at Cowdenhill, Bo'ness, in 1905. (See *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 289.)

(7) By A. BASHALL DAWSON, 33 Royal Terrace.

Fire-plate of cast lead, of the Friendly Society of Edinburgh.

Fire-plate of tinned iron, with tracings of gilding, of the North British Insurance Company.

(8) By WILLIAM KIRKNESS, F.S.A.Scot.

Bullet Mould of brass,  $9\frac{1}{8}$  inches long, for casting rifle bullets.

(9) By W. T. MUIR, Corresponding Member.

Sandstone Whorl, measuring  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, of flat discoidal form, found on the croft of Shortie, Evie, Orkney.

Leaf-shaped Arrow-head of yellow flint, imperfect at the point, and measuring  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{11}{16}$  inch, three Scrapers, and a Chipped Flake of flint, from Queena, Birsay, Orkney.

- (10) By DUGALD MACMILLAN, postmaster, Eriskay, by Lochboisdale, South Uist.

Bone Object, measuring  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch in length, tapering from  $\frac{1\frac{3}{8}}$  inch to  $\frac{1\frac{1}{8}}$  inch in breadth, and  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch in thickness, with two projections at one end perforated as for a hinge, and a deep transverse groove at the other end, the projecting parts above and below thus formed perforated vertically in two places as if to receive the end of a strap. found in Eriskay, Outer Hebrides.

- (11) By JOHN MORRISON and NORMAN MACKAY, Galson, Borne, Lewis.

Collection of Objects found in an earth-house at Galson. (See *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 185.)

- (12) By W. L. FERGUSON, 45 Ann Street.

Collection of sixty-five Communion Tokens.

- (13) By J. G. PATTERSON, 12 Inverleith Row.

Stone Whorl, measuring  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch, the domical upper side decorated with dot and circle ornamentation placed radially in pairs, and the flat lower side ornamented with radial lines.

- (14) By JAMES S. RICHARDSON, F.S.A.Scot.

Cannon Ball of stone, partly enveloped in lead, measuring  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch in greatest diameter, found on the beach below Tantallon Castle.

Trade Token — Haddington farthing, issued by George Pringle, Tobacconist.

Hoard of Bronze Objects found at Wester Ord, Invergordon, Ross-shire, in 1859, consisting of two socketed Axes, a socketed Knife, a Gouge, a socketed curved Tool, a penannular Armlet, and two fragments of a Neck-ring. (See subsequent communication by Mr Richardson.)

Deer-horn Tine from a kitchen-midden on south side of North Berwick Law. (See *Proceedings*, vol. xli. p. 424.)

- (15) By R. GADDIE, 61 Clerk Street, Loanhead.

Mustard Mill in the form of a turned bowl of wood with a lid, and the cannon ball of iron used in it, from Aberdeenshire.

It was announced that the following objects had been purchased for the Museum:—

Axe of indurated steatite, measuring  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches in length and  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch in breadth, with a groove round the butt end, found at Hewin, Costa, Evie, Orkney.

Earthenware Jar,  $9\frac{5}{8}$  inches in height, with a narrow mouth, a globular body transversely grooved on the exterior and a rounded base, with slight traces of greenish-yellow glaze remaining on the shoulder and mouth, used for holding oil for crusies.

Oblong Object of steatite, measuring  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, with a hole drilled near each end, found at Grudiar, Evie, Orkney.

Iron Door Knocker, consisting of a lion mask of cast metal and an oval ring of wrought iron hinged through the mouth, from Hope House, Edinburgh.

Pewter Quaich, measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in height and 2 inches in diameter at the mouth, with two lugs of fish-tail shape, from Laurencekirk.

Mauchline Snuff-box of wood, the exterior painted in tartan colours, with plain, oval gold mount in the centre of the lid and a chased mount at the side for opening it.

Bronze Stylus, measuring  $4\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length.

Bronze Pin, measuring  $3\frac{9}{16}$  inches in length, with a domical head decorated on the top with radial lines and a slight moulding below at the junction of the head and the stem; the upper part of the stem is of circular section, and the lower pointed half of square section, probably from Ross-shire.

Cutting half of Flat Bronze Axe, measuring  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches in length and  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches across the cutting edge, found at Auchnagarron, Rosskeen, Ross-shire.

Two Flat Bronze Axes, measuring  $5\frac{1}{8}$  inches and  $4\frac{7}{8}$  inches in length by  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches and  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches across the cutting edge respectively, probably from Ross-shire.

Bronze Sword, wanting the hilt, which has been chiselled off, measuring 23 inches long and  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch in greatest width across the blade, found at Fendom, Tain.

Two Bronze Socketed Axes, measuring  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches and  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches in length by  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch and  $2\frac{5}{16}$  inches across the cutting edge respectively, found in a burn on the north-west side of the Eildon Hills, Roxburghshire.

It was also announced that there had been acquired through the KING'S AND LORD TREASURER'S REMEMBRANCER

A Silver Spoon, bearing the Edinburgh hall-marks, D B (David Bog, maker), a castle, and I S (James Symontoun—Deacon, 1665–1667); on the

back of the bowl are the initials R M. The spoon was found while a trench was being dug for water-pipes in Church Street, Haddington, in the end of September 1924. When discovered, the bowl was crushed flat, but it has been opened out. (See subsequent communication by J. Graham Callander, F.S.A.Scot.)

The following Donations of Books to the Library were intimated:—

(1) By HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

Calendar of the Patent Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office Edward VI. Vol. i. 1547-8. Vol. ii. 1548-9.

Calendar of State Papers. Colonial Series. America and West Indies. 1710-June 1711.

(2) By the Rev. S. GORDON WILSON, M.A., B.Litt., A.K.C.L., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The University of London and its Colleges.

(3) By the DELEGATES OF THE CLARENDON PRESS, Oxford.

The Roman Occupation of Britain, being six Ford Lectures delivered by F. Haverfield, now revised by George Macdonald, M.A., LL.D.

Villanovans and Early Etruscans: A Study of the Early Iron Age in Italy as it is seen near Bologna, in Etruria, and in Latium. By David Randall-MacIver, M.A., D.Sc., F.S.A.

(4) By R. C. COWAN, F.S.A.Scot.

History of the Island of Mull. By J. P. MacLean. (Vol. i.)

(5) By LÉON LEQUEUX, the Author.

Emplacements d'Habitations Tardenoisienues et Objets néolithiques découverts à Langerloo, commune de Gench (Limbourg).

Industrie Tardenoisienne à cailloux roulés de Vossem (Brabant).

Stations Tardenoisienues des Vallées de l'Amblève, de la Vesdre et de l'Ourthe; précédé d'un avant-Propos de M. B. Rahir.

(6) By Sir JOHN R. FINDLAY, K.B.E., LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Fiesole—Gli Scavi il Museo Civico. Compilata da Edoardo Galli.

(7) By Mrs MACLAGAN, the Authoress.

The Story of Williamston, an Old Jacobite Home of Strathearn.

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(8) By H. B. MACKINTOSH, M.B.E., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
Pilgrimages in Moray: A Guide to the County.

(9) By FRANK W. HAYCRAFT, F.S.A.Scot., the Compiler.  
The Degrees and Hoods of the World's Universities and Colleges.

(10) By JOHN MATHIESON, F.R.S.E., Corresponding Member.  
Facsimile of a Map of the King's Roads, made by His Excellency General Wade, in the Highlands of Scotland, from Stirling to Inverness, with the Adjacent Countries, etc. Published 4th January 1746, by Thomas Willdey.

(11) By the TRUSTEES OF THE MANX MUSEUM AND ANCIENT MONUMENTS.  
Nineteenth Annual Report.

(12) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
Dunnottar Castle, Historical and Descriptive. A New Illustrated Guide Book.  
The Cathedrals of Moray and Caithness.  
The Scottish Castle.

(13) By Professor A. M. TALLGREN, Honorary Fellow, the Author.  
Fatjanovokulturen i Centralryssland.

(14) By E. HERBERT STONE, F.S.A., The Retreat, Devizes, the Author.  
The Stones of Stonehenge: A full Description of the Structure and of its Outworks.

(15) By Professor R. W. REID, M.D., F.R.C.S., the Author.  
Illustrated Catalogue of Specimens from Prehistoric Interments found in the North-East of Scotland, and preserved in the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, University of Aberdeen.

(16) By DAVID MACRITCHIE, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
The Aborigines of Shetland and Orkney. Reprinted from *The Scots Magazine*, June 1924.

(17) By LÉON COUTIL, Honorary Fellow.

L'Age du Bronze en Écosse. Extrait du *Bulletin de la Société Pré-historique Française*, 24 avril 1924.

(18) By the SECRETARY, ORKNEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.  
Proceedings. Vol. ii. 1923-4.

(19) By L. A. WADDELL, C.B., C.I.E., LL.D., 55 Campbell Street,  
Greenock, the Author.  
The Phœnician Origin of Britons, Scots, and Anglo-Saxons.

(20) By WILLIAM GEORGE BLACK, C.B.E., LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., the  
Author.

A Note on the Family of Black of Over Abington, 1694-1924. With  
Memoranda on the Families of Willison of Redshaw, Steel of Annathill,  
and Blackie of Glasgow.

(21) By JAMES S. DONALD, F.S.A.Scot.  
Scottish Pottery. By J. Arnold Fleming, O.B.E.

(22) By A. FRANCIS STEUART, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
Augusto Riccio S. Paulo di Solbrito: L'origine piemontese del Segretario di Maria Stuarda.

(23) By E. S. REID TAIT, F.S.A.Scot.  
Collection of Billets of Meetings and other Circulars of the Society  
of Antiquaries of Scotland, 1867-92, brought together by the late  
Gilbert Goudie.

(24) By Professor H. DRAGENDORFF, Honorary Fellow, and  
E. KRÜGER, the Authors.  
Das Grabmal von Igel.

(25) By J. TAYLOR GIBB, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
The Land of Burns: Mauchline Town and District.

(26) By DAVID MURRAY, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
Lord Kelvin as Professor in the Old College of Glasgow.

(27) By JAMES LAING, Alma Place, Laurencekirk.  
Letter from Lord Kelvin, when he was Sir William Thomson, to  
the donor.  
VOL. LIX.



It was announced that the following Books had been purchased for the Library :—

General Index of the Journal of the British Archæological Association. New Series. Vols. i.-xxv. 1895-1919.

Roman York, the Legionary Headquarters and Colonia of Eboracum. By Gordon Home, with the co-operation of Walter E. Collinge, D.Sc., M.Sc., F.S.L.

Everyday Life on an Old Highland Farm, 1769-82. By J. F. Grant.

The Stow of Wedale (Gala Water). By the Rev. T. Wilson, B.D.

The following Communications were read :—

# I.

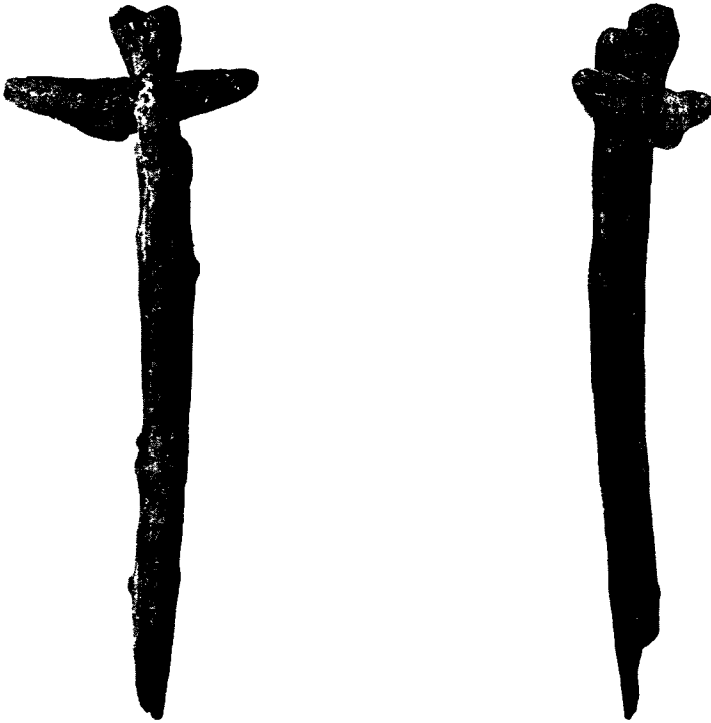
NOTE ON A PRIMITIVE WEAPON OR TOOL. FASHIONED BY FIXING A STONE IN A WOODEN SHAFT, FOUND IN A MOSS AT BOGAN-CLOCH. PARISH OF RHYNIE, ABERDEENSHIRE. BY JAMES CURLE, CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM.

In October last Mr John Smith, Sanitary Inspector for the County of Roxburgh, told me that when visiting his son, Mr James Smith, Sub-Factor at Drummond Castle, he had been shown a curious stone weapon with its wooden handle in the possession of Mr John Milton, one of the estate employees there. Mr Smith was fully alive to the importance of securing the object, and readily undertook to communicate with his son, through whom it was arranged that Mr Milton should dispose of his find in order that it might find a place in the National Collection.

The object, two views of which are shown in figs. 1 and 2, was discovered in the year 1906 while cutting peat in a peat moss at Bogan-cloch, which is situated between Rhynie and the Cabrach in the county of Aberdeen, not very far from the boundary of Banffshire. It was embedded in the peat, but particulars as to the depth at which it lay have not been preserved. It forms a rude weapon or tool, fashioned by inserting a pointed stone into a wooden haft.

The stone shows no signs that it has been wrought by human agency. It measures  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches long and  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch at its greatest width. It has a bulbous projection at one side, which serves as a natural stop-ridge to retain it in position. At both extremities it is pointed. The haft into which it has been inserted measures  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length; it is evident

that it was originally somewhat longer. The average diameter is from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch. At one end the haft thickens, attaining a diameter of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and here a hole has been made, through which the stone has been inserted. The haft itself has been identified as probably of gean or wild cherry by Mr H. F. Tagg of the Royal Botanic Garden, to whom I am much indebted for the appended report. It appears to be



Figs. 1 and 2. Stone Weapon or Tool in Wooden Shaft from Bogancloch, Aberdeenshire. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ .)

part of a young growth torn from the root, and, except for the hole bored for the reception of the stone, it shows no trace of handicraft.

It is probable that in its original state the stone was fixed more firmly in position by strips of hide or some coarse woven substance and resin; without some such lashing it could hardly have been kept in its place.

The purpose it served, or the age to which it belongs, are alike uncertain. On the whole, it suggests a weapon rather than a tool. In

the hands of the hunter it might be used to give the *coup de grâce* to a trapped animal, or it might be employed effectively in tribal warfare. As a find it is unique in this country, but, except for the fact of its preservation, it does not surprise us. Our Museums can exhibit countless examples of the axe-heads of primitive times in stone or in bronze, all of which must have been fitted to hafts which have long since disappeared. In England, at least, two stone axes still fixed in their wooden hafts have come to light. One was found in Solway Moss, and the original haft, now broken and distorted, is preserved in the British Museum. Another was found at Ehenside Tarn in Cumberland. In both of these the method of fixing is the same as in the Bogancloch find. The haft is perforated at one end, and the stone head thrust through it, but in both of these we have examples of carefully fashioned neolithic axes, objects which, if they cannot be dated, can, at least, be referred to a definite period.

In the Bogancloch find we have the stone axe in its most primitive form. Possibly weapons of this type were in use long before mankind had attained to the production of the polished stone axe, but we cannot, on the ground of its form, assign it with certainty to early or indeed to neolithic times. The primitive deer-horn pick, the tool of the early miner, has been found side by side with the iron tools of the Roman period. A type of weapon so simple in its construction as the Bogancloch find might continue in use over a long period, and while we may, I think, safely assign this object to a remote prehistoric time, we cannot in the present state of our knowledge go further.

#### REPORT ON WOOD OF THE HAFT.

By Mr HARRY F. TAGG.

Microscopic preparations of a small piece of the wood of the haft prove the wood to be that of a species of *Prunus*. The characters of the wood elements suggest that the wood is that of the Gean, *Prunus Avium*, Linn., but specific identification in a genus of closely allied species on wood characters only is naturally given with reservation. I find no other European species of the genus with wood so like the wood in question as *Prunus Avium*.

## II.

LONG CAIRNS AND OTHER PREHISTORIC MONUMENTS IN ABERDEENSHIRE AND BANFFSHIRE, AND A SHORT CIST AT BRUCETON, ALYTH, PERTHSHIRE. BY J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, F.S.A.Scot., DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES.

Last session, in describing the long cairn near Gourdon, Kincardineshire,<sup>1</sup> the first example of this particular class of monument in the north-east of Scotland to be recorded before the Society, I suggested that a thorough search of this part of the country would probably result in the discovery of others. Recently I have seen two more, one in Aberdeenshire and one in Banffshire. Another, also in Aberdeenshire, has been brought to my notice.

A few months ago, Mr James Cruickshank, F.S.A.Scot., having informed me that he knew of a long cairn a few miles from Aberdeen, I was able, in the end of September last (1924), to visit the cairn and several other prehistoric monuments within easy reach of the city, under the guidance of Mr Cruickshank and Mr A. W. Brown, Bankhead, who very kindly motored us to the various sites, Dr W. Douglas Simpson also being present.

## LONG CAIRN ON THE FARM OF LONGCAIRN, PARISH OF NEWHILLS.

The remains of this cairn lie alongside the bottom of a field on the farm of Longcairn, about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Aberdeen Townhouse, and some 350 yards south-south-east of the farm-steading. Though the name of the farm correctly indicates the character of the monument, and though it is marked "Long Cairn" on the Ordnance Survey Map, the structure does not seem to have been brought to the notice of the Society or of the leading Scottish archæologists who have dealt specially with the earlier prehistoric monuments of the country. This is the more remarkable as this cairn seems to be the one referred to in the old *Statistical Account*, vol. vi. p. 34, where, in the description of the parish of Newhills, it is stated that "In the parish is a cairn 108 feet long by 38 feet broad."

The monument is erected on a slight ridge on the south-western slope of Cloghill, at an elevation of 500 feet above sea-level. To the

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 23.

west it overlooks a wide stretch of country up Deeside, with the Grampians in the background, but to the east the view is blocked by Brimmond Hill, and to the north by rising ground. However, a glimpse of the tip of the Mither Tap of Benachie is to be seen towards the north-west.

The cairn is in a terribly dilapidated condition, as most of the stones have been removed from the ends and from a cut through the centre to build dykes round the fields. It now appears as two high, shapeless heaps of clean stones, rising about 9 feet above the base. In its mutilated state it is difficult to determine the original length of the structure, but the stones extend to at least 170 feet in length and 38 feet in breadth. We have seen, however, that the length given in the *Statistical Account* was 108 feet; possibly its length may have been added to as stones were gathered off the fields. The main axis lies  $127^{\circ}$  east of north magnetic, about east-south-east and west-north-west.

As it now appears, one almost hesitates to express an opinion as to the character or period of the mound. The amount of stones, many of large size, which have been collected in the reclamation of the land in this district is enormous, so much so, that to dispose of them, at two places they have been heaped up in solid masses many feet wide and of great length, which are known in the locality as "Consumption Dykes." But it may be taken as practically certain that the remains under discussion are those of a long cairn. The monument is not a despoiled consumption dyke, as the record in the *Statistical Account* was written long before these dykes were made. Neither is it a mere heap of land-gathered stones formed when the ground was being cleared for cultivation, as it was not the custom to pile up such material to a height of over 9 feet.

Along the northern margin of the cairn are a number of large boulders, but it is impossible to say whether they occupy their original positions. No traces of a burial chamber, nor of horn-like projections at either end, were observed.

Mr Cruickshank informs me that many years ago a cist was found in the cairn, and that the slabs of which it was formed were utilised to make a watering-place for animals at the roadside near by. Though Mr Cruickshank had seen the rude trough we were unable to find it, and it seems to have been removed. No information regarding the size of the cist, or the nature of any relics which may have been found in it, was obtainable.

## STANDING STONE, WOODSIDE OF MEIKLE CLINTERTY, NEWHILLS.

Some 15 feet from the north side of a field on the farm of Woodside of Meikle Clinterty, about 200 yards north of the steading, and about 100 yards from the side of the road leading up to it, is a single standing stone. It is placed on the western slope of the Hill of Elrick, at an elevation of 500 feet above sea-level, and the view to the west and north-west is extensive. The stone, which is a slab of quadrangular section, with its pointed top towards the southern edge, faces the west, and measures 4 feet 10 inches in height, 2 feet in breadth and 1 foot 3 inches in thickness at the base. It has quite the appearance of being the solitary survivor of a circle of standing stones.

ROUND CAIRN AND SMALL CAIRNS ON THE HILL OF MARCUS,  
PARISH OF DYCE.

In the wood that covers the top of the Slacks, Hill of Marcus, about 500 yards south-east of the farm-steading of Bendauch, and  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile south-east of Kinaldie railway station, at an elevation of about 540 feet above sea-level, are the remains of a fine, large, round cairn. It consists entirely of stones, devoid of any covering of soil or vegetation, but its surface has been much disturbed, many cavities having been made on its sides and top. Although some of these hollows are large and deep, it is quite possible that the place of burial, or remains of it, may have survived. The cairn measures some 74 feet in diameter and about 12 feet in height.

In the immediate vicinity, amongst the trees, are numbers of small stone cairns, about 12 feet in diameter and 1 foot in height. Small cairns of this class are quite numerous in the locality, as they are to be found on the tops and higher parts of the low hills round about.

The large cairn is marked on the Ordnance Survey Map.

HUT-CIRCLES AND SMALL CAIRNS, SKENE'S WOOD, PARISH OF  
FINTRAY.

In Skene's Wood, now a heathery bit of moorland which was recently covered with trees, some 3 miles north-east of Kintore, is a group of clearly marked hut-circles and small cairns, which were discovered by Mr Brown. Time did not permit of a complete traverse of the moor being made, but in the northern part of the eastern side eight hut-circles, as well as many small cairns, were seen and measured. I was assured that there were, at least, twenty hut-circles on the

ground, and, of course, the cairns were much more numerous. The slope of the moor is gentle, and its elevation above sea-level very little more than 300 feet at the highest point.

The hut-circles which were examined were of fairly large size. In some of them the wall consisted for the greater part of earth, but in others it seemed to be composed largely of stones. Although in many cases spread over a width of 10 and 12 feet, the circular bank often showed a height of more than 2 feet above the surrounding surface. The entrance was invariably within a few degrees of the most southerly point of the circle. The largest of the hut-circles examined had an internal diameter of 35 feet, with a wall 3 feet in height spread over a width of 10 feet; but the general internal diameter was from 25 feet to 30 feet. None of them showed any divisions or structures in the inside.

The cairns consisted of stones partly covered with soil and vegetation. They varied from 12 feet to 19 feet in diameter, and from 18 inches to 2 feet 9 inches in height. One example, 12 feet in diameter and 1 foot 9 inches in height, lay within 3 feet of a hut-circle. While the cairns were usually round, one of oval shape, measuring 18 feet by 12 feet in diameter and 2 feet 6 inches in height, was noted.

An interesting point about this group of hut-circles and small cairns is the low elevation above sea-level at which they occur, as some of them lie below the 300-foot contour line. Mr A. O. Curle in surveying, for the Ancient Monuments Commission, the prehistoric monuments of our most northerly and most southerly counties, found very few groups of hut-circles and cairns below the 600-foot level, the most of them occurring between that and the 900-foot contour line.

#### LONG CAIRN ON LONGMAN HILL, PARISH OF GAMRIE, BANFFSHIRE.

This very fine cairn, known as the "Longman Cairn," which is a prominent mark on the landscape, occupies the summit of a slight elevation, the Longman Hill, about 500 yards south of the fourth milestone on the Banff and Peterhead main road, and some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east-south-east of the town of Macduff, at an elevation of about 450 feet above sea-level. Except to the north and north-east, where there is a slight rise in the land, it commands a prospect over cultivated ground greater in extent than from any of the numerous cairns which I have seen in many parts of the country. To the south there is an uninterrupted view as far as the Benachie range, 25 miles away, with the

Grampians in the far distance. On the western arc the eye sweeps round by the Foudland Hills, the Buck of the Cabrach, and Ben Rinnes to the Bin Hill near Cullen and the Moray Firth.

- It is strange that the true character of this monument, such a conspicuous feature in the countryside, lying within a quarter of a mile of a main road, should not have been recognised and recorded in our *Proceedings* before this.

The cairn, which has a total length of about 220 feet, looks like a long cairn, 150 feet in length, about 9 feet in height, and varying from 40 feet in breadth at the north end to 25 feet at the south end.



Fig. 1. Long Cairn at Longman Hill, near Macduff.

with a circular cairn, 70 feet in diameter and 14 feet in height, erected on its northern extremity (fig. 1). At the junction of the two parts is a trench-like hollow, 5 feet deep, the bottom of which is about 4 feet above the base of the cairn. The main axis lies 30° east of north, about north by east and south by west. The monument has a thick coating of grass with some whins, which makes it difficult to determine whether there are many stones in its composition. But at one or two places where the surface is broken it seems to consist chiefly of earth, with a few stones. The complete absence of stone dykes round the fields in this part of the country would seem to indicate that there had been a scarcity of surface stones of any size, which would explain the greater use of earth than stones in building the cairn.



The mound seems fairly complete, although a hollow has been dug in the west side of the long part of the cairn, and a smaller one on the opposite side; also a quarry for road metal has encroached on the north-east margin of the round part. At the moment the quarry is being driven past the end of the cairn, and it is to be hoped that no further encroachment will be made on the site.

No indications of horns or of a burial chamber are to be seen. But in the *Transactions of the Banffshire Field Club*, 1897-8, p. 38, it is stated that "On the 18th September 1886 there was found at the west [? south] end of the long barrow a very fine urn about 12 inches high, and filled with calcined bones. After removal it was by some mischance broken and only the merest fragments remain. On 5th February 1888 another urn was found on the circular barrow; it was filled with black mould, about 8 inches high. Its mouth rested in a saucer: it was ornamented with zigzag markings, and which (sic) was surrounded with a ridge of bosses every few inches apart. . . . In both cases they had not been placed near the base [of the cairn]; the frost and rain had washed away the covering, and they were both got near the surface." Evidently these had been secondary burials, the first urn being probably of the cinerary variety, as was possibly the second also.

The cairn, from its peculiar shape, a round head and an attenuating tail stretching away from it, was termed the "lang man" by the people in the locality, and from this the hill got its name.

Mr Alexander Keiller of Morven, one of our Fellows, informs me that there is a long cairn at Balnagowan, near Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, and that its measurements are:—"length, 185 feet; breadth of west end, including spread, 34 feet; breadth of east end, very much spread, 81 feet; height at east end, 7 feet 10 inches; and orientation, 117° magnetic," that is about east by south and west by north.

#### SHORT CIST AT BRUCETON, ALYTH.

Last spring the Rev. James Meikle, F.S.A.Scot., parish minister of Alyth, notified me of the discovery of a grave on the farm of Bruceton, about 3 miles east-north-east of the village of Alyth, and intimated that Mr M'Crossan, the proprietor, would be very willing to let the grave remain undisturbed until I could go and examine it. I was able to do this, with the assistance of these gentlemen, towards the end of June, Mr M'Crossan very kindly having arranged to have one of his men present to help in the work of excavation.

The farm of Bruceton lies on a rather steeply-rising braeface, on

the right bank of the River Isla, and the grave lay on a slight knowe, at an elevation of about 240 feet above sea-level, some 650 yards south-south-west of the steading, and about half that distance north-north-east of the Mill of Cumno. The spot is in a field called Crossfold, of which the lower part, where the grave is situated, was called at one time the Cumno Heads.<sup>1</sup> About 280 yards to the east-north-east is a sculptured stone bearing the arch or horse-shoe and so-called elephant symbols;<sup>2</sup> and on the brow of the hill, about 700 yards to the north-west, is a standing stone—the last of five—near a peculiar hollow, called Holy Howe or Hell Hole, which contains a spring, and beyond which were underground dwellings.

The grave was discovered through the plough coming in contact with the cover-stone, which had gradually been denuded of its covering of soil by the action of agricultural implements, so that only about 6 inches remained above it. The raising of the cover-stone, an irregularly shaped slab of sandstone, measuring 4 feet in length, 2 feet 10 inches in breadth at its widest part, and from 5 inches to 7 inches in thickness, revealed a short cist formed of slabs, also of sandstone, set on edge, which had all the characteristics of a Bronze Age burial. It was full of sandy soil, which had found its way into the chamber through the interstices between the slabs, and in the south-west corner were the remains of a rabbit's nest. The cist measured 3 feet 1 inch and 3 feet 2 inches internally along the north and south sides, 2 feet and 2 feet 3 inches across the east and west ends, and 1 foot 6 inches in depth; its main axis lay 85° east of north magnetic, that is about east-north-east and west-south-west. The ends and north side each consisted of a single slab, about 4 inches thick, that on the north being forced inwards at the top by external pressure, but on the south side there were two slabs, the one at the west end overlapping the inside of the one at the east by about 16 inches. None of the slabs showed any signs of tooling, but the top of the stone at the west end being about 5 inches lower than the others, the vacant space was made up by flat stones.

On removing the sandy soil with which the grave was filled, a few unburnt fragments of a human skeleton, including a piece of the skull, were recovered, but no other relics were found. The skull lay near the western end of the grave, but whether it had been lying on its right or left side could not be determined, as the bones had been displaced by the burrowing of rabbits.

Professor Thomas H. Bryce, to whom the bones were submitted for

<sup>1</sup> In an old estate map belonging to the Earl of Airrie, drawn in 1772-3, the name is given as the Cumday Heads; and in another, of date 1800, Cumnay Heads.

<sup>2</sup> *Early Christian Monuments*, p. 282. fig. 300.

examination, reports that "the skeleton from this grave is very fragmentary. The individual was an adult of somewhat slender physique, but it is not possible to state positively whether the bones belonged to a man or a woman.

"The skull is represented by the greater part of the frontal bone and a portion of the parietal bone of one side. The frontal bone shows a well-marked glabella and prominent superciliary ridges and a distinct supra-glabella fossa. The frontal eminences are low, and the bone arches up to the bregma in a flattish curve. These features suggest that the skull is that of a male.

"The long bones are much decayed and broken. Fragments of the shafts of one ulna, of the femora, and of the tibiæ are present, but they are too imperfect to yield data as to the stature of the individual. The tibiæ show the distinct lateral flattening of the upper part of the shaft known as platycnemia. An astragalus and a navicular bone are also present, but present no characters which call for comment."

In the near vicinity of this grave several other discoveries of pre-historic remains have been noted. About 100 yards to the south-east of the symbol stone already mentioned, the Ordnance Survey Map records "stone cists found," and about 500 yards to the south-south-west of the cist described, the site of a standing stone is marked. In addition to these, I was informed by Mr Meikle that in 1908 Mr G. Kidd, farmer in Auchteralyth, unearthed a cist on a gravelly knowe in a field known as the Ringiegaw, where another had previously been found, and where he is convinced there are still others. These, although on the adjoining farm, lie scarcely more than 100 yards due east of Bruceton steading.

## III.

NOTES ON A GROUP OF CHIPPED STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM  
ROXBURGHSHIRE AND BERWICKSHIRE. BY J. M. CORRIE,  
F.S.A.Scot.

In the *Proceedings* of this Society, vol. l. pp. 307-13, I described a series of stone and flint implements from a restricted area on the lands of Dryburgh in the parish of Mertoun, Berwickshire. Since that communication was submitted many additional finds have been made, and it seems desirable to make a closer and more extended examination of certain of these primitive implements that so far have received but slight or passing notice. I refer particularly to the stones chipped wholly or partially round the edges from one face only. Two types were mentioned in my earlier paper, but new varieties that invest this class of implement with additional interest have since been recorded from the area, and it is because they seem to indicate an entirely different purpose from what has generally been attributed to such relics that I wish to revert to them on this occasion. Hitherto very little attention seems to have been devoted to these chipped stones, and they do not appear to have been generally recognised, although the characteristics that give these objects their main interest must have been imparted to them by artificial means. Possibly they may have been overlooked in some parts of the country by reason of the fact that many of the cruder examples are not readily distinguished from the results of natural agencies.

My attention was first of all directed to these chipped stones by the discovery, in 1913, of a well-made, oval and somewhat curved specimen (fig. 1, No. 1) on the site of the Great Camp at Newstead Roman Fort, near Melrose. This, at the time, was an isolated find, but I have since met with examples at Ancrum Mains, Harrietsfield, and Fairnington, in the county of Roxburgh, and I have discovered them in considerable numbers and in a variety of forms at Dryburgh and Bemersyde, in the county of Berwick.

One type has been referred to by the late Sir Arthur Mitchell, who described it as follows: "A flat thin stone, roughly reduced by chipping to a circular shape, showing no polishing or grinding, and varying from 3 to 25 inches in diameter, and in thickness from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch." And he adds: "I have seen these stones extensively in use in Shetland, Orkney, Caithness, the Hebrides, Sutherland, Ross, and

Inverness. They are nothing but lids; and they are to be found acting as lids on the top of the water-pail, meal-cask, cream-jug, sugar-basin,



Fig. 1. Chipped Stone Implements from Roxburghshire and Berwickshire.

etc. Why people should continue thus to make lids of stone, even in districts where wood is abundant, it is very difficult to see, but the

fact that they do so, it is important to know."<sup>1</sup> In a further reference he records: "Such stone lids are often found in excavations about brochs and other prehistoric ruins. Most of those so found are small . . . but I have obtained two from Unst in Shetland—one of them, which formed the lid of a meal-cask or girnall, is 19 inches in diameter, and the other is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches."<sup>2</sup> We have here a trustworthy and conclusive account of the use of certain examples from the northern counties of Scotland, but an interesting problem emerges when we extend their geographical distribution to include sites in the southern counties of Roxburghshire and Berwickshire. No such definite record is available, and the purposes attributed to these northern examples—if such objects ever existed in the south—are, as far as my knowledge goes, entirely unknown to-day in the Border country. I have, indeed, been forced to the conclusion that certain forms may, at varying stages of human progress, have served a variety of purposes in different parts of the country, and I hope to show that this theory is more or less confirmed by the group of flaked products to which I am now specially directing attention.

Before passing to the consideration of these shaped stone objects, however, the character of the ground where they are found, and the manner of occurrence of the materials employed, again require a brief survey. Alternating with sandy ground are areas which, at an earlier period, must have formed old lake basins that artificial drainage has changed for the most part into cultivated fields. Along the higher ridges the ramparts of the Clintmains and Butchercote camps, together with the scattered relics of aboriginal life, indicate the former dwelling-sites and factories of the prehistoric craftsmen. The relics I refer to are found generally throughout the neighbourhood and consist, in addition to the usual workshop refuse, of the completed implements, weapons, and ornaments of stone and other materials. Articles formed of less durable substances are exceptional. An occasional gun-flint or curiously shaped lead-bullet connects the district with the period of Border turmoil and warfare, but throughout the whole area the refuse of stone-, as distinct from flint- and chert-flaking of the earlier periods, is abundant, and is well amplified by the interesting series of stone flakes and cores that have been recovered from the area, a few of which (fig. 1, Nos. 8 and 9) are exhibited with the finished relics under discussion.

The chipped stone implements are made from ordinary flattish river or water-worn materials, but in the partially flaked examples there is a marked difference between the two sides of the stone. The one is smoothly rounded by the action of water and by friction

<sup>1</sup> *The Past in the Present*, p. 128.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 61.

against other stones, while the other is carefully chipped from the opposite face (fig. 1, No. 2). They are mostly of a somewhat ovoid form, and they vary in size from about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, and from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in thickness, the special characteristics of the chipping varying considerably according to the size and nature of the stone employed. In at least one instance the edge appears to have been subjected to a double flaking, a specialised form of treatment that may have been rendered necessary by the thickness and intractable nature of the stone. A variant of an oval and somewhat curved form from the Monksford Field, Dryburgh, shows exceptionally neat and regular flaking carried almost entirely round the circumference (fig. 1, No. 3). Other variants from the Riverside Field, Dryburgh, and from Fairnington show respectively two notches, a portion of one side chipped, and distinct evidence of the stone having been employed as an anvil. In the common or roughly circular type wholly chipped round the circumference (fig. 1, Nos. 4 and 5) there are two distinct classes, the one showing perpendicular trimming, and the other oblique flaking round the edges, something like that seen on the peculiar stone discs found in such numbers on the Culbin Sands, Morayshire. Some of the specimens are very crude; but there are others, especially in the obliquely flaked class, that show beautiful symmetry of outline, and afford conclusive evidence that the flaking was done with minute care, and was not the result of any haphazard operations such as might be suggested by the rougher examples. They vary in size from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, and from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in thickness. Modifications of the edge and surfaces due to wear occur in some cases, and adaptation to certain usages are to some extent indicated on a few examples by the sharp edges being dulled to roundness or by being still further chipped, notched, or battered; in one instance, which, however, finds a counterpart in another form to be described later, we find the implement provided with a central shaft hole. The next type, represented by a single imperfect specimen, is very curious, for it has a cavity that has been worked almost entirely through the stone in the centre of the face that shows the edge-chipping (fig. 1, No. 6). It was found on the Monksford Field, Dryburgh, in December 1921. The cavity appears to have been carefully made, and it reaches to within an  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch of the reverse side of the stone. Its purpose is not clear, but the implement may have been intended to have had a completed perforation, such as we find occurring in our next example, which, like the one I have just referred to, is also imperfect, and the only variant of its class I have met with (fig. 1, No. 7). In this instance the chipping of

the edges has become somewhat water-rolled, but it is still distinctly in evidence.

In no instance in Roxburghshire and Berwickshire have I come across a split boulder or pebble treated in the manner of these chipped stones. The choice of the Border craftsmen seems to have been restricted to specially selected water-worn stones. I have, however, a single specimen from the Ardeer Sands, near Stevenston, in Ayrshire, that has been made from a portion of a split pebble of hard texture.

Reviewing the series as a whole, and paying special attention to the distinctive features and peculiarities of the varied types, we notice first of all the entire absence of large specimens, and we can hardly escape the conviction that these southern examples are representative of various requirements and may have been used in such processes as "skinning, cutting wood, stag's horn, bone, and hide, or for flaking or breaking up other small and finer stones, or for putting the finishing touches to some specialised attainment connected with their social habits or workshop routine." It would appear as if the shaft hole was suggested and intentionally designed for the purpose of greater efficiency in the specific operations to which they were applied; and further, that whatever their true application, the numbers found indicate that they were implements of common and everyday use.



## IV.

THE AUGUSTINIAN PRIORY AND PARISH CHURCH OF MONYMUSK,  
ABERDEENSHIRE. BY W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.LITT.,  
F.S.A. SCOT.

The picturesque village of Monymusk is situated on the right bank of the Aberdeenshire Don, at the point where that beautiful river, after emerging from the narrow, rugged, and wooded gorge between Bennachie and the Menaway range, spreads itself out in graceful loops over the fertile haugh extending eastward and northward to Kemnay and Inverurie. The scenery all around exhibits singular variety and charm, owing to the sharp, immediate contrast between the bosky howe, with its rich agricultural bottoms, and the rugged heath-clad hills rising into the craggy "Mither Tap" of Bennachie, which dominates the whole landscape. Monymusk, indeed, exhibits all that *insita sibi species venustatis* which is so usually characteristic of old Celtic religious sites. That its charms have been long appreciated is evidenced by the ancient couplet— ascribed, of course, to Thomas the Rhymer:—

" Monymuss shall be a buss  
To draw the dun deer down."

The parish of Monymusk is one of high antiquarian and historic interest. That a district so favoured by nature as this secluded and smiling vale, sheltered by its northern rampart of hills, would have been early settled is what we should expect; and evidence for this exists in the stone circles in the deer-park, Monymusk, at Nether Coullie, at Tombeg, and at Whitehill,<sup>1</sup> and in the weapons and implements of the Stone and Bronze Ages which have been found in various parts of the parish. Coming to historic times, the Early Celtic period is illustrated by the beautiful sculptured stone and by the famed Brexbannoch, both preserved at Monymusk House. We may note also the highly interesting old church site at Abersnithack, across the Don from the Priory, which bears the name of St Finan, one of the group of Welsh missionaries brought by St Kentigern along with him from Llan-Elwy during his mission into Aberdeenshire towards the end of the sixth century. To medieval and later times belong the Priory and the Parish Church, and the two picturesque castellated houses of Pitfichie<sup>2</sup> and Monymusk. The

<sup>1</sup> Described and illustrated by F. R. Coles, F.S.A.Scot., in *Proceedings*, vol. xxxv. pp. 201-8, and by J. Ritchie, Corr. Mem.S.A.Scot., in vol. li. pp. 41-7.

<sup>2</sup> Described and illustrated by me in *Proceedings*, vol. lv. pp. 135-9.

parish has a literary flavour all its own, due to the facts that one of its medieval rectors (1496-7) was the poet Gavin Douglas;<sup>1</sup> that in more modern times it became the scene of the astounding fiction of Archangel Leslie; and that John Skinner, the gifted author of *Tullochgorum*, was for some time schoolmaster here. Another Rector of Monymusk, though merely in a titular sense, was the saintly Robert Leighton, Archbishop of Glasgow under the Restoration Episcopacy.<sup>2</sup> On two occasions, in 1761 and in 1764, John Wesley preached in the ancient church. One of the most popular of Scottish reels is Daniel Dow's "Monymusk Strathspey." To students of Scottish land economy, Monymusk is well known as the scene of Lord Cullen's great improvements in the early years of the eighteenth century, which marked the beginning of a forward movement in north-eastern agriculture.<sup>3</sup> And, lastly in this catalogue of varied interests, the naturalist remembers Monymusk as the scene of an interesting though unsuccessful effort, in the nineties of last century, to acclimatise the American Wapiti deer in Scotland.

#### I. HISTORICAL SKETCH.

A Columban origin has been claimed for the Culdee settlement at Monymusk, but on no historical foundation. The first specific account that we have of the place refers to the time of King Malcolm Canmore (1057-93). It is said that, on the occasion of an expedition against the men of Moray in 1078, the King made a grant of the lands of Keig and Monymusk to the Church of St Andrews. The record of this gift is not contemporary,<sup>4</sup> but is accepted as authentic by Skene and other authorities.<sup>5</sup> It would seem difficult otherwise to account for the historical connection between St Andrews and a monastic community so far away. The other priories dependent on St Andrews—St Serf's, Loch Leven, St Mary's, Portmoak, St Ethernan's (St Hadrian's), Isle of May, and St Mary's, Pittenweem—were all in the nearer neighbourhood of the superior community. Thus was commenced the long connection between this Aberdeenshire centre of early Pictish Christianity and

<sup>1</sup> See *Registrum Secreti Sigilli Regum Scotorum*, vol. i., No. 139.

<sup>2</sup> See Rev. D. Butler, *The Life and Letters of Robert Leighton*, p. 355, note 1.

<sup>3</sup> See *Miscellany of the Spalding Club*, vol. ii. pp. 96-7.

<sup>4</sup> See *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff* (Spalding Club), pp. 171-2, where the detailed specification of the lands granted by Canmore is given from a sixteenth-century transcript in the Monymusk charter chest. The boundaries, which are described with great minuteness, have been investigated by Rev. A. Low, F.S.A.Scot., in *Proceedings*, vol. vi. pp. 218-24. The story of Canmore's visit and grant is picturesquely told by J. Bellenden, *Hystory and Croniklis of Scotland*, ed. 1821, vol. ii. p. 283.

<sup>5</sup> W. F. Skene, *Celtic Scotland*, ed. 1887, vol. ii. p. 389; J. Stuart, *Book of Deer*, Introduction, p. lxxvi; but cf. W. Reeves, "On the Culdees," *Trans. Royal Irish Academy*, vol. xxiv. part iii. (1873) p. 253.

the first episcopate to be founded (*circa* 900) under the influence of the Romanising clergy who were introduced by King Nectan Mac Derile (706-29) and his successors during the eighth and ninth centuries. This association resulted in the thirteenth century in the replacement of the ancient Culdee settlement at Monymusk by a Priory—sometimes in later records styled an Abbey—of Augustinian Canons Regular, under the Bishop of St Andrews. And just as under the influence of Rome the old foundation of St Kenneth at the latter place was dedicated to St Mary in the new regime, so also at Monymusk the reconstituted Priory was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin.<sup>1</sup> It has been said that Canmore founded the Norman Parish Church at Monymusk; but this building belongs, as we shall see, to the end of the twelfth century.

In face of the lack of documentary evidence for a remoter antiquity, Dr Joseph Robertson was led to conjecture that the Culdee settlement at Monymusk was sent thither from St Andrews as a result of Canmore's gift in 1078.<sup>2</sup> But the uniform voice of tradition that there was a much earlier settlement of the Celtic Church here is strongly supported by the existence at Monymusk to-day of an exceedingly fine sculptured stone (fig. 1), belonging to a class the style of whose ornament may be referred to the ninth century. Now preserved at Monymusk House, the stone originally stood at Nether Mains, 1 mile eastward from the Priory. It is an unhewn striated granitic boulder, 7 feet high, with sculpture partly incised and partly in relief. The sculpture consists of an equal-armed Celtic cross, with shaft and base, all ornamented with knot-work; the "step" symbol, and the "disc and double-ring" symbol.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In the "View of the Diocese of Aberdeen," 1732, it is wrongly stated that "the Priory Church was dedicated to St John"—*Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 171. Perhaps there may have been an altar to this saint in the church. The dedication is given correctly by the same author in another place—*ibid.*, p. 584.

<sup>2</sup> See his article on "Culdees" in *Chambers's Encyclopædia*, ed. 1923, vol. iii. p. 609. On the other hand, Dr Reeves, though he suspected the genuineness of Canmore's grant (see *supra*, p. 35, note 5), was inclined to think that if this King had any real connection with Monymusk, "the probability is that he was a restorer, not a founder, and that, as in the subsequent case of Deer, he revived a decayed monastery and enlarged its endowments. At all events, Monymusk was affiliated at the above date to the Church of St Andrews, and partook of its discipline as an institution of Keledei."—"On the Culdees," *ut supra*, p. 173.

<sup>3</sup> See J. Romilly Allen and J. Anderson, *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, part iii. pp. 192-4; also old *Statistical Account*, vol. iii. p. 69. The bench-mark on the stone, of course, is modern.

Any attempt to estimate the date of the Monymusk stone must be based upon a balance cast between those respects in which it differs from, and those in which it resembles, other specimens of its kind.

Displaying the cross in association with symbols, the stone belongs to the second class into which these Pictish sculptured monuments have been divided by Anderson and Romilly Allen. The period of this class has been fixed upon sound evidence as falling within the ninth and tenth

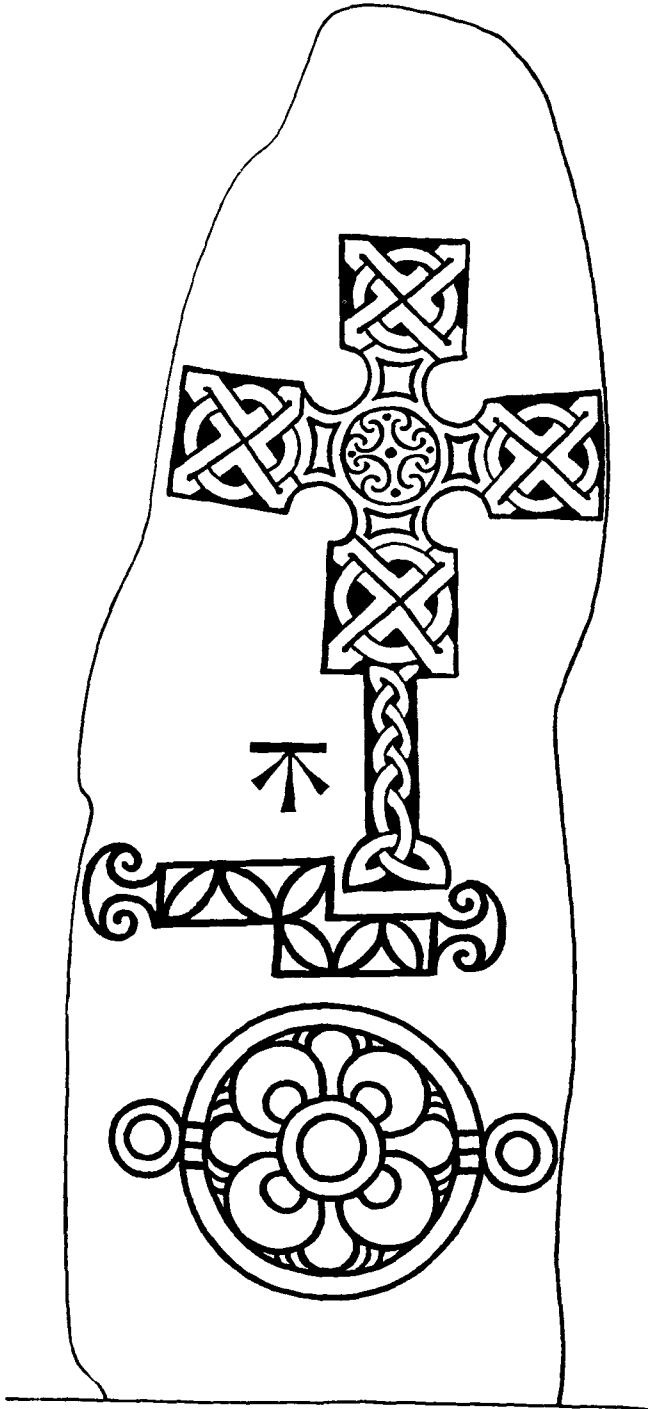


Fig. 1. The Monymusk Stone.

The other relic of Celtic Christianity associated with Monymusk, the famous "Brecbannoch," or reliquary of St Columba, has no ascertained connection either with the Culdee settlement or with the Priory. Along with the lands of Forglen, in Banffshire, which pertained

centuries (see *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, part i. p. cix). It remains to be considered whether within these limits an earlier or a later date should be preferred.

Stones belonging to Class II. are usually carefully dressed and shaped to a slab-like form; but the Monymusk stone is a rude undressed monolith, similar in all respects to the rough Aberdeenshire pillar-stones of Class I., displaying symbols without the cross. This circumstance might be taken to favour an early date; though it should be remembered that the hard igneous and metamorphic rocks of Aberdeenshire do not lend themselves to cutting and dressing like the sandstones of Forfarshire, where the finely tooled and elaborately sculptured monuments of Class II. are specially found. Indeed, it may be guessed that to this circumstance is due the comparative paucity of monuments of Class II. in Aberdeenshire, which contains only four others—the Formaston ogham stone, the Migvie stone, the Dyce stone No. 2, and the Maiden stone. On the other hand, it should be recollected that one of these, the Maiden stone, is a finely shaped and dressed monolith wrought in the obdurate Bennachie granite.

Passing now to the decoration on the Monymusk stone, the equal-armed cross in Pictland, harking back to *Candida Casa*, points to an early date, although the pedestal (an unusual feature) suggests the influence of the later shafted cross, as if the equal-armed form were already felt to be archaic. The shafted cross is the usual one on Class II. monuments. But an equal-armed cross upon a pedestal occurs on the Woodway stone, which is of a late type, having symbols but showing also animal and zoomorphic forms. The pedestal is seen also on the Ulbster stone, where the "step" symbol, found on the Monymusk stone, occurs as well. Two other examples of the equal-armed cross with pedestal are found upon the Skinneth stone No. 1. All these three monuments are advanced specimens of Class II. An equal-armed cross upon a pedestal occurs on a stone of Class III. at Holm, near Kirkwall. Another example of Class III. type was found on a slab with an inscription in scholastic oghams dug out of the Broch of Burrian, North Ronaldshay. An equal-armed cross with a pedestal of peculiar type occurs on the Dunfallandy stone, and also on the Meikle stone No. 5. Both these stones belong to Class II., but are late in their period. The semicircular base upon which the pedestal stands on the Monymusk stone is seen again on the Farr stone, which is of late date (Class III.). It also occurs on the St Vigeian's stone No. 12 (Class III.).

Another early feature, recalling Class I., is that the decoration is applied to the figures only, not to the field of the monument. The fact that some of the ornament is incised is also an archaic characteristic.

The pattern (Romilly Allen No. 1108) in the centre of the cross is seen in the "double-disc" symbol on the Fordoun inscribed stone. The inscription there is in minuscules, the epigraphic use of which in Britain ranged between the middle of the eighth and the tenth century (see Æ. Hübner, *Inscriptiones Britannicæ Christianæ*, p. 21). The same pattern occurs in the "double-disc" symbol on the Brodie ogham stone, which seems of an advanced date, the ornamentation of the symbols being very rich and the ogham script belonging to the later or scholastic variety. The pattern also is found in the illuminated Gospels of MacDurnan, an Irish manuscript ascribed to about the year 900 (Sir E. Maunde Thomson, *Introduction to Greek and Latin Palæography*, p. 380. Mælbriide MacDurnan, Abbot of Derry, died in 927).

The interlaced pattern work on the pedestal of the cross is of a simple and early type. The pattern on the arms (Romilly Allen No. 728) is unique.

The "step" symbol, as it here occurs with expanded crescentic and scrolled terminations, is unique. The vesica or almond shapes with which it is adorned occur on the Woodway stone, on the Strathmartine stone No. 3 (which like the Monymusk stone has sculpture partly incised and partly in relief, and (doubtfully) on the St Vigeian's stone No. 5. All these are monuments belonging to Class II. The almond shapes strongly recall the amygdaloidal bosses occurring in Late Celtic ornaments of the Pagan period, such as the bronze armlets found with a coin of Nerva (A.D. 96-8) in an earth-house at Castle Newe, Aberdeenshire. See J. Anderson, *Scotland in Pagan Times (The Iron Age)*, pp. 141-3.

The general inference in regard to the Monymusk stone seems distinctly in favour of an

to the office of its guardianship, the Brecbannoch was granted by William the Lion to the great Abbey of St Thomas the Martyr at Arbroath, which he founded in 1178.<sup>1</sup> On 18th January 1315, Bernard de Linton, Abbot of Arbroath, executed a deed conveying the lands of Forglen and the wardenship of the Brecbannoch to Malcolm de

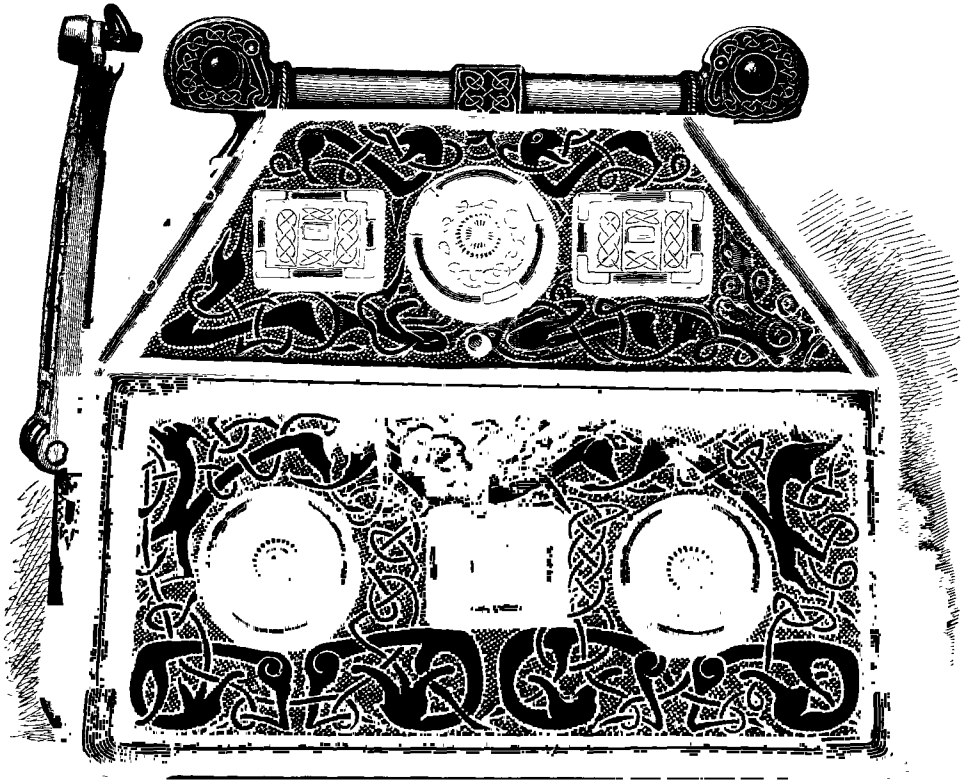


Fig. 2. The Brecbannoch—front view.

Monymusk,<sup>2</sup> on the condition that he and his heirs should take the Abbot's place in carrying the reliquary before the King's host on the

early date within the limits of Class II. Hence the ascription of the monument to the ninth century in the text. As suggested therein, the point has some bearing upon the alleged very late period of the Culdee foundation.

<sup>1</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 510; cf. Adamnan's *Life of St Columba*, ed. W. Reeves, *Historians of Scotland* ed. (1874), Introduction, pp. xcvi-ix.

<sup>2</sup> For the de Monymusks, see W. M. Macpherson, *Church and Priory of Monymusk*, pp. 139-44; also A. J. Monday, *From the Tone of Somersetshire to the Don of Aberdeenshire*, pp. 29-35. The place of their capital message is unknown.

day of battle.<sup>1</sup> From the family of de Monymusk the lands of Forglen ultimately passed to the Irvines of Drum, in the charter chest of

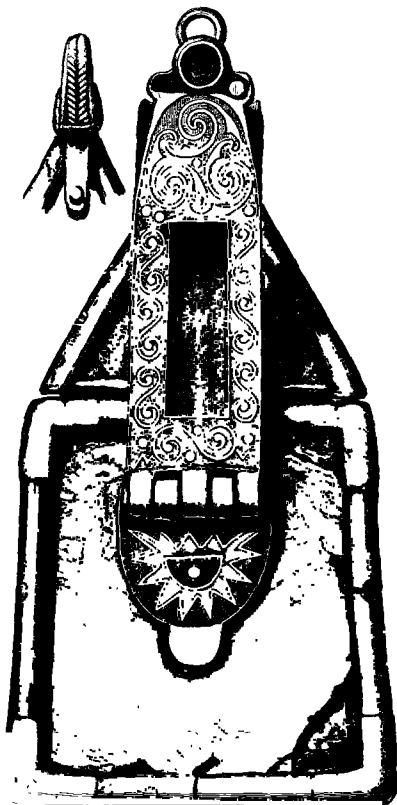


Fig. 3. The Brecbannoch—end view.

which family writs connected with the custody of the Brecbannoch, and the obligation to carry it in the King's army, are found under the years 1481, 1483, and 1494.<sup>2</sup> How the reliquary itself found its way back to Monymusk is not known. This beautiful remnant of Early Christian art (figs. 2, 3), dating perhaps from the eighth century, has been fully described by Dr Joseph Anderson.<sup>3</sup> It is a casket cut out of solid wood, and plated with bronze and silver, which is adorned with enamelled work, jewels, and engraved and stippled Celtic scroll and zoomorphic ornament. Its dimensions are: length,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches; breadth at base, 2 inches; height,  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

The history of Monymusk and its Priory has been ably and exhaustively explored by a former parish minister, Rev. W. M. Macpherson, D.D., in whose careful book<sup>4</sup> all the important documents are translated at full length. I need not, therefore, do more than present here an outline of the main facts, particularly as supplying evidence for the character

and architectural history of the buildings.

The first mention of "the Culdees of Munimusc" occurs in a grant of produce by Gartenach, Earl of Buchan, assigned to the period 1120-30,

<sup>1</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 511.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 514-7.

<sup>3</sup> *Scotland in Early Christian Times*, pp. 241-51. See further, *Proceedings*, vol. xiv. pp. 431-5, and vol. xlv. pp. 260-6; and *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, part i. p. lxxxix; also J. Stuart, *The Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, vol. ii. Pl. 11, Appendix to the Preface, p. lxxxii, and Notices of the Plates, pp. 75-6.

<sup>4</sup> *Materials for a History of the Church and Priory of Monymusk*, published in 1895. Having had occasion, in the preparation of the present paper, to test this work pretty thoroughly in the original sources, it is a pleasure to record my sense of the patient and accurate scholarship of its reverend author, whose characteristic modesty conceals, in his choice of a title, the fact that in this unpretending volume he has provided one of the finest histories extant of any Scottish religious house. Dr Macpherson's memory is fittingly preserved by a brass tablet in Monymusk Church.

and confirmed by his grandson Roger about 1170.<sup>1</sup> They also received grants of land from Robert, Bishop of St Andrews (1122-59),<sup>2</sup> and from Gilchrist, Earl of Mar (died *circa* 1211). An undated charter of Earl Gilchrist bestows the Church of St Marnan of Leochel upon "God and the Church of St Mary of Munimusc and the Culdees serving in the same."<sup>3</sup> Two confirmations made by Bishop John of Aberdeen (1199-1207) reveal that this munificent Earl also bestowed upon the Culdees of Monymusk three other churches, those of St Walloch of Logie, St Nidan of Invernochty, and St Andrew of Alford.<sup>4</sup> He further granted them the lands of Dolbethok and Fornathy.<sup>5</sup> Afterwards the Church of Logie was bestowed by Duncan, Earl Gilchrist's successor (died *circa* 1244), upon the Cathedral of Aberdeen, and in exchange the Church of St Andrew at Kindrochit in Braemar was made over to the Convent of Monymusk.<sup>6</sup> Later gifts included the Church of St Mary of Nemoth, the Church of St Diaconianus of Keig, granted to the Priory by William Malvoisin, Bishop of St Andrews (1202-38),<sup>7</sup> and large gifts of produce from the great family of Durward, who established themselves in the southern portion of Mar early in the thirteenth century.<sup>8</sup>

One of the two charters of confirmation by John, Bishop of Aberdeen, speaks of "that gift which Gilchrist, Earl of Mar, gave to his own Monastery which he built at Munimusc in the Church of St Mary, in which Culdees formerly were."<sup>9</sup> Here, therefore, we have definite documentary evidence of the building of the Priory by Earl Gilchrist about the end of the twelfth century. The dates of this Earl are somewhat obscure. By some authorities he is placed from 1170 to 1204, but others give the lower date as 1211. There is much difficulty

<sup>1</sup> *Registrum Prioratus Sancti Andree*, ed. T. Thomson, p. 370.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 369.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 373-4.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 374-5.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 370-2.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 367; *Registrum Episcopatus Aberdonensis*, ed. C. Innes, vol. i. p. 16. The motives for the gift to Aberdeen Cathedral are set forth in full, and afford a fine example of the ideas prompting the pious munificence that endowed our churches in the thirteenth century: "*ad ampliationem divini cultus et ad communam dictorum canonicorum ampliandam et ad sustentationem vnius capellani quem dicti canonici inuenient ad celebrandum perpetuo pro anima mea et antecessorum meorum sponse mee et heredum meorum in dicta ecclesia sancte Marie ubi roui et legauit corpus meum sepeliendum inter venerabiles patres nostros episcopos ibidem sepultos.*" For the Church of St Andrew at Kindrochit, see my paper on "The Royal Castle of Kindrochit in Mar" in *Proceedings*, vol. lvii. pp. 86-9. Its connection with Kilrymont or St Andrews, of which Monymusk also was a cell, dates from the reign of Angus Mac-Fergus (729-61). Bearing in mind the association of Monymusk with Malcolm Canmore, is it a mere coincidence that Kindrochit also is linked in old-descended tradition with this King and his campaigns against Moravia (see my paper, *ut supra*, pp. 83-6)?

<sup>7</sup> *Registrum Sancti Andree*, p. 366.

<sup>8</sup> For the Durwards, see my paper on "The Excavation of Coull Castle" in *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. pp. 47-8.

<sup>9</sup> *Registrum Sancti Andree*, pp. 374-5: "*donacionem illam quam Gilchrist comes de Marr donauit cenobio suo quod construxit apud Munimusc in ecclesia sancte Marie in qua keledei ante fuerunt.*"



about the genealogy of the Mar earldom at this period. "Two series of Earls," says Lord Crawford, "appear in rivalry and competition, and many of the Earls cannot be properly affiliated."<sup>1</sup> In any case, as Bishop John died in 1207, the Priory must have been built before this year.

In the other confirmation of Bishop John, reference is made for the first time to the "*canons of Munimusc*." The charter previously quoted speaks of "the church in which Culdees formerly were." These phrases are significant in connection with the efforts now being made to abolish the Culdees or to bring them under the new-fashioned Roman discipline. A complaint was lodged before Pope Innocent III. by Bishop Malvoisin against the Keledei or Kildei of Munimusc, as a result of which a Commission of Inquiry, given from the Lateran on 23rd March 1211, was issued to Adam, Abbot of Melrose,<sup>2</sup> William, Abbot of Dryburgh, and Robert, Archdeacon of Glasgow. From the terms of reference as tabled in this Commission we learn how Malvoisin had complained that "certain Keledei who profess to be canons, and certain others of the diocese of Aberdeen, in the manor (*villam*) of Munimusc which pertains to him, do not fear to establish a kind of regular canonry in opposition to him, contrary to justice, and to the prejudice and hurt of his<sup>3</sup> church." Evidently the Culdees were attempting on their own initiative to reform themselves and to bring their constitution into line with the new ideas, without episcopal sanction, a course to which their Bishop-superior objected. Perhaps, as Dr John Stuart suggested, they "wished to be regarded as canons without being subject to the ecclesiastical rule thus involved."<sup>4</sup> The upshot of the dispute was a composition of high interest, because it defines in precise terms the constitution of the convent as existing in the thirteenth century. It is provided that the Culdees

"shall have in future one refectory and one dormitory and one oratory without a cemetery, so that the bodies of Culdees and of clerics or laymen staying with them shall receive ecclesiastical burial in the cemetery of the parish church of Munimusc as freely as hitherto they are wont to be buried, the right of mother-church being preserved in all cases. And there shall be

<sup>1</sup> *The Earldom of Mar*, by Lord Crawford and Balcarres, vol. i. p. 166. For the two sets of Earls in rivalry, see a letter by the Hon. R. Erskine of Mar in *Aberdeen Press and Journal*, 27th February 1924.

<sup>2</sup> Afterwards the ill-fated Bishop of Caithness (1213-22), who was roasted to death by his flock on his own kitchen fire. See my paper on "Dornoch Cathedral, the High Church of Caithness," in *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 227; also my paper on "The Cathedrals of Moray and Caithness" in *Aberdeen University Review*, July 1924, p. 210; and my *The Castle of Kildrumny: Its Place in Scottish History and Architecture*, pp. 41-2.

<sup>3</sup> Not "their," as translated in Macpherson, p. 109.

<sup>4</sup> *Book of Deer*, Introduction, p. cxxii.

twelve Culdees there, and a thirteenth, Bricius, whom the Culdees themselves shall present to the Lord Bishop of St Andrews, that he may be their master or prior. And upon his dying or retiring, the Culdees shall by their common consent choose three out of their fellow Culdees, and present them to the Bishop of St Andrews whoever he may be, that the Bishop of St Andrews according to his own will and disposition may select one of the three to be prior or master. And in the election of the prior or master of the Culdees this shall be observed: with the addition that it shall not be lawful for the same Culdees to profess the life or order of monks or canons regular without the consent of the same bishop or his successors there, nor to exceed the number of the Culdees beforementioned. But when a Culdee dies or retires they shall be at liberty to substitute another up to the number beforenamed."

In accepting these conditions the Culdees receive confirmation of their lands and revenues, and undertake to do nothing "to the hurt of the Parish Church of Munimusc."<sup>1</sup> Thereafter Pope Innocent III. took the Priory into his special protection, in return for a yearly payment of two shillings sterling.<sup>2</sup>

Thus we gather that the Culdee fraternity consisted on the Apostolic pattern of twelve brethren and a master or prior, that they were bound by no vows and had no cure of souls, that they possessed a refectory<sup>3</sup> and a dormitory, an oratory, and the right to burial in the parish graveyard. The oratory—dedicated, like the Priory and the Parish Church, to St Mary—was for use of the Prior, and stood on the farm of Balvack.<sup>4</sup> In the writs connected with the Priory reference also occurs to the chapter-house.<sup>5</sup> From two instruments dated 6th February 1534, it appears that each canon at that time had his own cell within the dormitory.<sup>6</sup> This may have been a survival from Culdee times, for in Celtic monasteries each brother had his own cubicle. Connected with the Priory was a school, the memory of which is still preserved in the Scollatis or Scoloc's land.<sup>7</sup> There were also three gardens ("perhaps an orchard, parterr, and kitchen garden"), a croft equal to 4 bolls sowing, and pasture for 6 horses and 15 wethers.<sup>8</sup>

It will be noted that in the document of 1211 the Bishop of St Andrews

<sup>1</sup> *Registrum Sancti Andree*, pp. 370-2. There is a copy in a later hand in the *Registrum Aberdonense*, vol. ii. pp. 264-6, and vol. i., Preface, p. lxxx. The translation is Dr Macpherson's, with sundry corrections.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 375-6.

<sup>3</sup> The "refectory or hall" is mentioned in two writs of 1534—see *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff* (Spalding Club), vol. iii. pp. 493, 496.

<sup>4</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, pp. 169, 170, 585.

<sup>5</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. pp. 484-5, 488-9.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 492-3.

<sup>7</sup> *Miscellany of the Spalding Club*, vol. v., Appendix to Preface, p. 6; *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. p. 504. See also *Trans. Aberdeen Ecclesiological Society*, vol. i. part iv. pp. 23-5.

<sup>8</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 171. One of the monastic gardens was on the site of the old schoolmaster's garden, just north of the Parish Church (Macpherson, p. 70).

is expressly called "the founder of the house of the Culdees" at Monymusk. This fact seems to support Dr Robertson's conjecture that the Culdee settlement at Monymusk was sent out from St Andrews after Canmore's grant in 1078. On the other hand, the act may have been merely, as Dr Reeves thought, the reviving of an older house. It would appear that discipline among the Culdees was slack, for another document of Bishop Malvoisin, apparently subsequent to the composition of 1211, and issued at the request of the Prior and Culdees themselves, fulminates against certain of the brethren who had forsaken their vows and returned from their religious profession "to the common ways of men and of regress . . . as a dog returning to his vomit or a sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."<sup>1</sup> No doubt the existence of such indiscipline led to the final transformation of the Culdee College into a Priory of Augustinian Canons Regular. In one charter by Duncan, Earl of Mar (1211-44), the brethren are styled "*Keledei sive Canonici*," and in another the term canons alone is used.<sup>2</sup> The Durward charters also speak only of canons.<sup>3</sup> Finally, a bull of Pope Innocent IV., dated from Lyons on 19th May 1245, is addressed to "our beloved sons the Prior and Convent of Munimusc of the Order of St Augustine in the diocese of Aberdeen."<sup>4</sup> This date may therefore be taken as marking the completed transformation of the Culdees into Canons Regular in the Roman obedience.

In 1360, Monymusk was honoured by a visit from David II., as appears from an entry in the *Exchequer Rolls*, under date 21st April, accounting for the sum of £6, 13s. 4d. paid to William of Coryne, burgess of Aberdeen, for a jar of wine "bought for the use of the Lord King and carried to Monymusk," also a sum of 53s. 4d. paid to Laurence of Garvok for fodder purchased "for the King's use and carried to Monymusk."<sup>5</sup>

In 1437, Monymusk is entered as a prebend of the Cathedral of Aberdeen, the manse, as appears by a deed of 1454, being in the Chanonry beside the Cathedral "as one goes by the highway to the mount which is called in the vernacular *Dunnydronishil*" (Tillydrone).<sup>6</sup> Another entry in the Aberdeen Register states that Bishop Ingram de Lindsay, in 1445, with the consent of the Bishop of St Andrews, added the prebend

<sup>1</sup> "*Tamquam canis ad vomitum rediens ut sus lota in volutabro luti*."—*Registrum Sancti Andree*, pp. 368-9.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 362, 367.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 363-5, 369.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 372.

<sup>5</sup> *Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 32. Laurence of Garvok is otherwise known. He was one of three representative burgesses appointed by the burgh of Aberdeen to act, along with others from Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, as procurators to negotiate for the ransom of King David II., 26th September 1357.—*Charters and other Writs Illustrating the History of the Royal Burgh of Aberdeen*, ed. P. J. Anderson, p. 301.

<sup>6</sup> *Registrum Aberdonense*, vol. ii. p. 65; vol. i. pp. 267, 302-3.

of Monymusk to the College of Canons.<sup>1</sup> The rector would generally be resident at his manse in Aberdeen, his parochial duties at Monymusk being discharged by a "perpetual" vicar or curate. The vicar's salary would be a fixed charge on the canon's income from the parochial revenues; for the lesser tithes, which in impropriated churches were often reserved to the vicar, were in this case assignable to the See of St Andrews. Monymusk was a mensal church of the Bishop of St Andrews; but in the event of a vacancy in that see, the usufruct of the second tithes of Monymusk was enjoyed by the Bishop and the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen. Thus upon the death of Archbishop Andrew Forman of St Andrews in 1521, the second tithes of the lands of Keig and Monymusk were paid over for two years to Bishop Gavin Dunbar of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

By the sixteenth century affairs in the Priory of Monymusk, as in many other Scottish conventual houses, had got into a bad way, and the records of the years 1534-6 reveal that Prior David Fairlie and his subordinates were parted by bitter and protracted strife.<sup>3</sup> Nor were the material possessions of the fraternity in happier case. In two writs, dated respectively 17th March 1549 and 9th December 1550, the conventual buildings are stated to be "now in ruins," and "ruinous and almost levelled to the ground."<sup>4</sup> A third document, dated 11th July 1554, informs us more precisely that the monastery "is alluterlie brint exceptand ane pairt thair of als distroyit with fyre throcht negligence of the said Priour and his seruandis." This document relates that at a Justiciary Court held in Aberdeen, Prior John Elphinstone<sup>5</sup> had been ordered to "cause reperall and bete" the desolated monastery. That a certain amount of restoration had been effected seems to be indicated by the words of the document, which states that Prior John had been directed to "caus vphald the divine service quhilk of veritie is better donne and ma novmer is put thairto nor wes thir ten yeris bygane."<sup>6</sup>

Amid these embarrassments the canons had got themselves into debt, and in security for moneys advanced by Duncan Forbes of Corsindae towards repairing the buildings, they had pledged the lands of the

<sup>1</sup> *Registrum Aberdonense*, vol. ii. pp. 253, 152; see also vol. i. pp. 54, 58, 171; and cf. W. Orem, *Description of the Chanonry, Cathedral, and King's College of Old Aberdeen, in the Years 1724 and 1725*, ed. 1791, pp. 77-8.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i. pp. 58, 171, 359. For the date of Archbishop Forman's death, see P. Hume Brown, *History of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 364, note 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. pp. 490-6. The documents are translated *in extenso* by Macpherson, pp. 169-78.

<sup>4</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, pp. 179, 182.

<sup>5</sup> Coadjutor Prior with David Fairlie from 1542.

<sup>6</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iv. pp. 778-9.

monastery lying in the parish of Monymusk by a deed bearing date 17th March 1549.<sup>1</sup> Once established in these lands, the Forbeses were not to be dislodged. In 1550, Prior Elphinstone was brought to trial for murder, theft, adultery, and violent assault upon the Rector of Methlick with "roungis" and "battounis," "within the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen where he was for the time celebrating matins and divine service."<sup>2</sup> In or after 1584, the last Commendatory Prior, Robert Forbes, handed over the ruinous buildings to his kinsman, William Forbes of Monymusk, son of Duncan, the first laird. The deed of gift recites "that the place and monastery of the said Priory of Monymusk is now almost ruined and waste, and that all convents of the same are extinct, so that there is no residence or house fit for habitation for the present at the said monastery." In conveying the property to William Forbes—described as "feudatory of the lands of the manor of Monymusk"—the deed provides for the foundation and maintenance of a school (*gymnasium*) "for instructing boys in honourable studies and literature."<sup>3</sup> Thereafter Forbes is said to have built for himself the Castle of Monymusk, the tall, much-altered keep of which still forms the nucleus of the present stately baronial mansion. It is asserted that to build his fortalice he plundered the ruins of the dismantled monastery.<sup>4</sup>

A block plan of the House of Monymusk is shown at fig. 4. The central portion is on the traditional L-plan, but modified by a southward projection in the manner of the variations often seen in late examples of this plan, for example at Craigievar and Balfluig<sup>5</sup> in the same county. To this keep wings have been added at various periods. The round tower at the south-east corner (fig. 5), which is four storeys high and vaulted in the basement, with a spiral stair serving all floors, is doubtless one of the angle-towers of the ancient barmkin wall. This tower is built with a very pronounced rake or batter throughout its whole height. In the west wing, which is dated 1888, at the point A on plan, an old freestone loophole has been built into the wall at the first-floor level. It is of the cruciform shape, with an oilette below, found at the

<sup>1</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, pp. 179–80. This deed specifically states that some restoration of the monastery actually had taken place: "*magna pecunie summa . . . in utilitatem dicti nostri loci et Monasterii nunc ruinosi conuertenda et alias conuersa pro edificatione et restauratione eiusdem.*"

<sup>2</sup> R. Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials in Scotland*, vol. i. p. 356. Prior Elphinstone was also Parson of Invernochty, and as such a Canon of Aberdeen.

<sup>3</sup> "Chartour of the ruinosse hous of Monymusk be Robert Commendatour."—*Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, pp. 184–5.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 171; cf. p. 27. Notes about the ruined conventual buildings will be found in Macpherson, pp. 70, 281; Monday, *From the Tone to the Don*, p. 36; J. A. Henderson, *Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions*, p. 299. The fishponds mentioned by Monday are apocryphal—see A. I. McConnachie, *Donside*, p. 65 (large paper ed., pp. 109–10).

<sup>5</sup> See my description of this castle in *Proceedings*, vol. lv. pp. 142–6.

neighbouring and contemporary castle of Tillycairn.<sup>1</sup> The keep comprises five storeys and a garret, the two upper storeys having been added, as evidenced by the old corbel-table and bases of angle-turrets still remaining at the original wall-head. Below this corbel-table on the east front are two ancient windows opening from the third-storey level. They have projecting hoods in the form of a depressed arch carried by corbel-masks. The east wall of the top turret in the addition displays a figure of an elephant in low relief. The internal arrange-

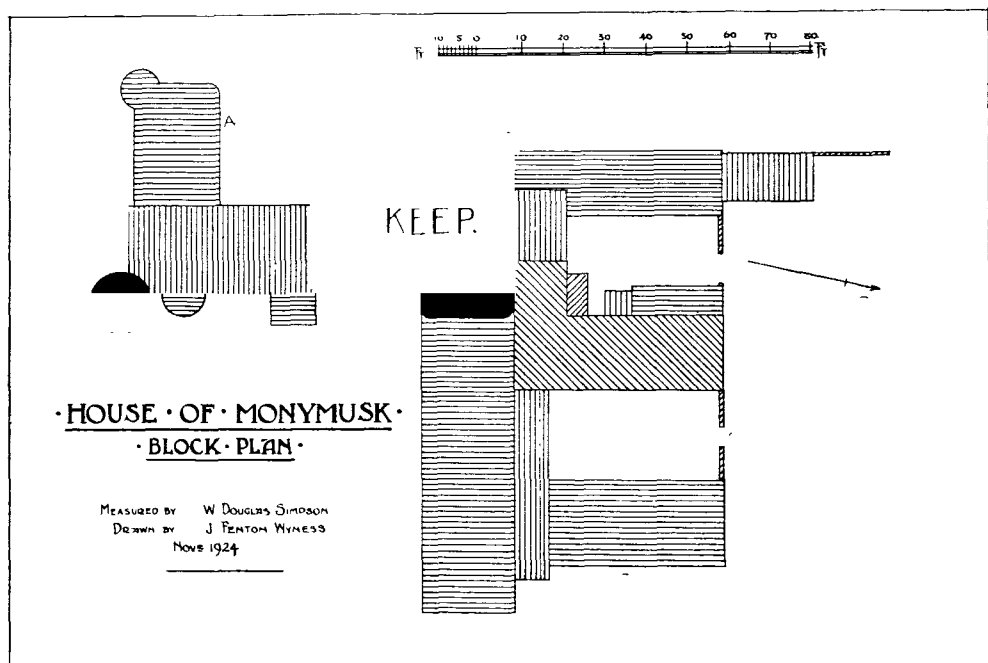
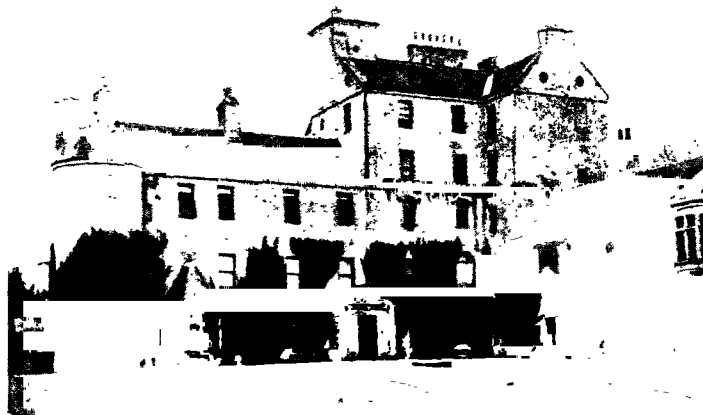


Fig. 4. Plan of Monymusk House.

ments of the keep are now somewhat altered, but have been of the usual type. Originally the door was in the re-entrant angle, looking south. The basement contains vaulted kitchen and offices, and on the first floor is a fine dining-hall, with traces of the usual service stair at the south-west corner leading down to the cellar below, in which is a well. At present the walls are panelled over, but a portion of the panelling at the north-west corner has been made removable in order to show a fine aumbry in the stone wall behind, the plastered surface of which is richly painted in tempera-work. The aumbry measures

<sup>1</sup> See my description in *Proceedings*, vol. iv. p. 139.

1 foot 3 inches broad by 2 feet 7 inches high by 2 feet 10 inches deep. Its lintel is wrought as an ogee arch having a trefoiled head with scrolled side points. On the tympanum a scroll is carved with a hand pointing to the motto LATYAMSAY wrought in relief in letters of the sixteenth century. The aumbry is fitted with an oaken frame, but its shutter is gone. The portion of the painting now exposed includes a shield with the royal arms of Scotland, also another shield charged with a crescent between three bears' heads, ensigned with a helmet, and flanked by the initials M. F., the whole being enclosed in a laurel wreath. The decorative pattern of the wall painting consists of flower vases and scrolled foliaceous ornament. One vase has the date 1618



[Photo W. Norrie.]

Fig. 5. House of Monymusk view from S.E.

inscribed on the stand which bears it. The colouring, which has been restored, is in rather dull yellows, greens, reds, browns, and blacks.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of the aumbry (with an illustration) and the paintings, of which only a small portion is now accessible, will be found in an article by C. E. Dalrymple in *Scottish Notes and Queries*, May 1888. See also Monday, *From the Tone to the Don*, pp. 37-40. In a description of Monymusk in 1716, written by Sir Archibald Grant, the following picturesque account of the mansion is given:—"The house was an old castle, with battlements, and six different roofs of various heights and directions, confusedly and inconveniently combined, and all rotten, with two wings more modern, of two stories only, the half of windowes of the higher rising above the roofs, with granaries, stables, and houses for all cattle, and of the vermine attending them, close adjoining, and with the heath and muire reaching in angles or goushets to the gate, and much heath near, and what land near was in culture belonged to the farmers, by which their cattle and dung were always at the door."—The Monymusk Papers, in *Miscellany of the Spalding Club*, vol. ii. p. 97.

The session records of Monymusk, which are extant from 18th August 1678, are full of entries connected with the fabric and furnishings of the church. Most of these relate to matters of detail, but a number of extracts may be quoted as casting light upon its structural history. As in other northern parishes, the post-Restoration episcopacy seems to have resulted here in a certain improvement of taste and a desire to augment the decency of public worship.

1685, *July 19th*.—"The sd day after the invocat'ne of the name of God the Min'r made overtures to the session it being by the late Visitat'ne<sup>1</sup> a roome destinate for the building a desk to the Min'r's familie in all time coming that therfor yr might be a desk built upon the sessions expenses in the sd room & for the sd effect, and that the Min'r serving now the cure and all his successors should pay the interest of the money that should be spendit, to which overture all the elders consented as judging this a good improvement of so much money & a standing advantage to the poor in the place.

"The sd day also the Min'r reported to the session how inconvenient the passage was to the pulpit being from the comon kirk door throw the whole body of the kirk & so consequently uneasy both to the Min'r & people, he wished therfor some passage mor easy and convenient might be contrived. Whereupon it was moved that a door might be struck out hard by the pulpit, Which might be a passage to it and to the Min'r's desk, to which motion all consented and the thesaurer ordained to imploy workmen for that effect.

"The sd day also it was moved by the Min'r that whereas ther is now a great deal of confusion & disorder in the body of the kirk by chairs and seats, & the people not so weel accomadate, that therfor piewes might be built & forseats of every desk taken away for that end, to which the elders consented for the reasons above sett down, & a standing advantage to the poor in the place. And the thesaurer is ordered to buy materials and imploy workmen for that effect.

"The sd day also the Min'r overtured that whereas he had receaved several complaints that ther was so little accomadatne in the comon loft be reason that the seats wer so few & the people so numerous, that therfor yr might be many mor seats built and the loft put in another order, to which the elders consented as most reasonable, & appointed the thesaurer to advyse wt workmen & to imploy them for yt effect."

On 2nd August following these deliberations the "thesaurer" reports that he has come to terms with a carpenter and two masons; and on 4th October the "piewes" being now completed, the session decide to let them at 3s. 4d. per seat. The allocation of seats was duly made on 17th October, and the list of seat-holders is entered in full.<sup>2</sup> They are grouped in two divisions, in the "backside" and "forside" of the kirk. On 24th January 1686 the treasurer reported that the minister's seat had been completed and the new door made in the wall

<sup>1</sup> A recent visitation of the Presbytery of the Garioch, whose attention had been called to the lack of a desk by the minister, Rev. John Burnett. See Rev. Dr J. Davidson, *Inverurie and the Earldom of the Garioch*, p. 348.

<sup>2</sup> The list has been published by Davidson, *op. cit.*, p. 348.



adjoining.<sup>1</sup> From these various entries we can see clearly what the arrangement of the church was in the latter part of the seventeenth century. The pews were arranged, as they are now, along the north and south sides of the nave, with a central alley between. The pulpit would be in its present position near the middle of the south side, and "the door struck out hard by the pulpit" is doubtless the opening which is still traceable at a low level in the outside wall at this point. Opposite the pulpit, along the north wall, was the "comon loft," and as there was then no north aisle, we can easily understand how cramped this loft must have been in the long narrow nave of the ancient church. What the condition of the east end and chancel was at that time we have no means of knowing.

From an entry dated 17th January 1686 we learn that the stool of repentance was at the west end of the church adjoining the door from the tower.

"The sd day John Fergus gave in a petition to the session craving liberty to build a desk in the room behind the comon kirk door where now the stool of rep'ance stood. and for yt end he might take down the stool of rep'ance, obliedge himselfe to build another befor the breast of the comon loft and to uphold it upon his own expenses."

This petition was duly granted by the session on the 24th following. From the phrase "the room behind the comon kirk door" it might be inferred that the stool of repentance actually stood in the vaulted basement of the tower. But throughout the session records of this period the word "room" is used simply in the sense of "space," as in the extract previously quoted about the minister's desk.<sup>2</sup> If the nave arch of the tower had already been built up, then the stool of repentance would not have been visible from the interior of the kirk, had it occupied the porch of the tower—quite apart from the manifest inconvenience of such a position.

At the same time as these improvements were being made in the church itself, a good deal of attention was being devoted to its surroundings. In 1679 dykes were erected round the churchyard, at a cost of £14. Next year a new church stile was built, having stone gateposts and a wooden gate bound with iron, payments for which are

<sup>1</sup> Some of the items in the cost of these works are:—For building the door, £5; for bands and locks for the said door, 12s., and an iron bar, 7s. 6d.; for building the pews in the church and erecting the seats in the loft, £28, 17s. 8d.; for building the minister's desk, etc., £17. All the items in these records are of course in Scots money.

<sup>2</sup> "Behind" probably refers to the north side of the door, the north wall being the "back" of the church. The stool of repentance would thus be on the left-hand side of the door entering the body of the church from the tower—a very suitable position alike for the rebukes of the minister from the pulpit and the edification of his flock.

specified in full. These are doubtless the gateposts that still remain built into the later house gables on either side of the entry from the village square. On 18th December 1682, £4 was expended on trees planted in the churchyard.

In July 1685 a new tongue was made for the church bell, at a cost of £1, 0s. 8d. In the following March the bell, being "in hazard of falling" through decay in the "stock and iron-work," was remounted at a cost of £11, 3s. 4d. It required attention again in 1694 and in 1695.

On 21st August 1692 "the thesaurer reported that the stair of the comon loft was so rotten yt it was dangerous to go upon it,<sup>1</sup> As also yt the loft itselfe was in hazarde of falling in respect that it had but two posts." The session accordingly ordered him to have a new stair built and an extra post inserted to carry the loft. The cost of this post was £3, 12s.,<sup>2</sup> and of the "sparrs & boards" for building the stair, £5, 8s.

On 8th August 1697 the session received an overture from the Laird of Monymusk to the effect that as the two bells in the steeple were not good, and weighing only nine stones between them were too small to cast into one, he would be agreeable to present a new one. Probably the bells thus condemned were the medieval ones. The session accepted the laird's offer with alacrity; and on 10th October following, Monymusk came forward again with the suggestion "that since they wer now like to have a good bell, they may think of makeing a cloak, which wold be both for ornament & use to the place." To this the session agreed, and the bell and a clock with dial were duly made by Patrick Kilgour, Holyrood House, at a cost of £145, 6s. 8d. The bell, however, was found too small, and was recast by John Meikle, Edinburgh, at the laird's expense, in 1700. The new bell weighed 204 lb., and cost 20s. per lb. As against this charge Meikle received Patrick Kilgour's discarded bell and a balance sum of £121, 14s. Scots. The new bell required mending, at a cost of £1, 16s., in 1719, and in passing the account for payment the session minuted (5th July) as follows:—

"And considering that the too frequent tolling of the bell att Burialls might be the occasion of her being so frequently disordered, Thought fitt to enact that she should be tolled thrie or four times at most att every buriall."

<sup>1</sup> Evidently an internal wooden stair is signified.

<sup>2</sup> A previous post bought for the loft on 17th February 1689 cost only £1, 8s. Mr James S. Richardson, F.S.A.Scot., Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, has expressed to me the opinion that the fact of the common loft having only two posts indicates that it was situated at the west end of the nave. He points out that if the loft extended along the north wall (as suggested in the text), these posts would have been at 15-foot centres. On the other hand, the position of the stool of repentance seems to negative Mr Richardson's view. It could hardly have stood *under* the common loft. See further note 3, p. 52, *infra*.

On 24th February 1723 the clock is reported "so worn that she could not be made to go right," and on 21st April following a sum of £21 is paid to "John Mouat" for dressing it. This was doubtless the same John Mowat who cast the bell now existing in the church.<sup>1</sup> As there is a gap in the records between 1730 and 1772, no notice is available about the purchase of this bell in 1748.

On 22nd May 1726 "ye loft hard by ye head of ye Ministers Desk" was reported in danger of falling. As we know from the entries of 1685 that the minister's desk was on the south side next to the pulpit, and as it appears from the present entry that there was a loft overhead, it follows accordingly that the desk must have been east of the pulpit and that there was at this time a loft across the adjoining end of the nave, as there is to-day.<sup>2</sup> On 12th June the repairing of the crazy structure was agreed to, and on the 19th an alteration in the completed work was directed to be made, because "ye entrey therto was somqt uneasy." A rearrangement in the seating of "ye loft att ye back of the Kirk" was also contemplated, but was abandoned owing to the expense.

On 14th July 1770 an account for £38. 8s. was paid for "painting the Dial plates on the Steeple." Two years later the clock was reported to be "in much need of a thorro' Repair, being now almost useless," and an estimate of £11 sterling was obtained from Charles Lunan, clockmaker in Aberdeen, for the cost of putting it in order, but nothing was done in view of the expense.

On 24th August 1778 accounts were passed for repairing the north and west dykes of the churchyard, from which it appears that these were covered with "feals" or sods. An entry under this date reveals the fact that there was a music gallery in the church—no doubt in the east loft. Upon this point it is interesting to recall that on 7th May 1761 John Wesley preached in Monymusk Church, and has left on record his high opinion of the musical quality of the service.

"About six we went to the Church. It was pretty well filled with such persons as we do not look for so near the Highlands. But if we were surprised at their appearance, we were much more so at their singing. Thirty

<sup>1</sup> John Mowat, bell-founder in Old Aberdeen, was admitted a member of the Hammerman Trade of Old Aberdeen in 1717; became a Trade Burgess on 13th June 1719; and died in 1771—information kindly supplied me by Mr R. Murdoch Lawrance, Aberdeen.

<sup>2</sup> The arrangement of the nave at this time was precisely similar to that of the choir of Coldingham Priory as used for parochial worship in the eighteenth century. See the illustration in A. A. Carr, *History of Coldingham Priory*, p. 320, which gives a good idea of the squalid church furnishings in vogue at this period.

<sup>3</sup> This phrase distinctly indicates that there was a loft along the north side of the church (cf. *supra*, p. 51, note 2).

or forty sang an anthem after service with such voices as well as judgment that I doubt whether they could have been excelled in any Cathedral in England."<sup>1</sup>

- On 25th June 1787 the bell was reported in disrepair, and on 29th August an examination by the session, with expert assistance, revealed "the Bell Stock, the Cross-trees and supporters upon which it is suspended, all decayed and rotten," and "the Bell on that account in danger of tumbling." It was agreed that the whole woodwork should be rebuilt, and doubtless the mounting then erected is that now in use.

The only entry relative to the reconstruction of the church in 1822 is a brief one, but it is pleasing as evidence of the fact that in Monymusk the Presbyterian and Episcopal congregations dwelt together in terms of amity and mutual helpfulness unusual at the period:—<sup>2</sup>

*December 29th.* "Collection for the Chapel, the Parish having met there for public Worship while the Church was under repair. Two pounds."

And we are glad to find that at a later date the Presbyterians were able to return the compliment:—

1834, *November 24th.*—"Collection by the Episcopal Congregation in acknowledgment of their use of the Parish Church, while their own Place of Worship was undergoing repairs. £4."

## II. DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINS.

The material remains that still survive to recall the ancient ecclesiastical importance of Monymusk are now reduced to the Parish Church, greatly altered but still Norman in substance. About 40 yards north-east of the church, just within the gate leading to Monymusk House, is the site of the Priory. Here a flat recumbent stone, measuring about 4 feet 11 inches long by 2 feet in greatest breadth, is pointed out as a threshold, and two gate-pillars have been built to mark its position. But it should be observed that this stone exhibits various bolt sockets and a leaden bat, indicating clearly that it has at one time been used for a gatepost, and its connection with the Priory must thus be regarded as highly suspect.

### THE CHURCH.

The church consists (see Plans, fig. 6) of a western tower, measuring 22 feet by 19 feet over the walls, the basement of which contains a

<sup>1</sup> *The Works of the Rev. John Wesley*, ed. J. Benson, vol. iv. pp. 59-60. Wesley preached again in the church on 7th June 1764—*ibid.*, pp. 202-3.

<sup>2</sup> This pleasant relationship between the two congregations seems to have been characteristic of Monymusk throughout the eighteenth century. See Macpherson, p. 245.

vaulted porch; a nave, measuring 52 feet 11 inches by 26 feet over the walls, with a north aisle erected in 1822; and an anomalous structure, partly unroofed, and measuring 52 feet 10 inches by 21 feet over the walls, which occupies the position of a chancel.<sup>1</sup> The church is oriented 10° N. of E.<sup>2</sup>

*Tower*—(a) *Exterior*.—The tower is at present 50 feet 10 inches in height to the summit of the modern parapet. At the first-floor level

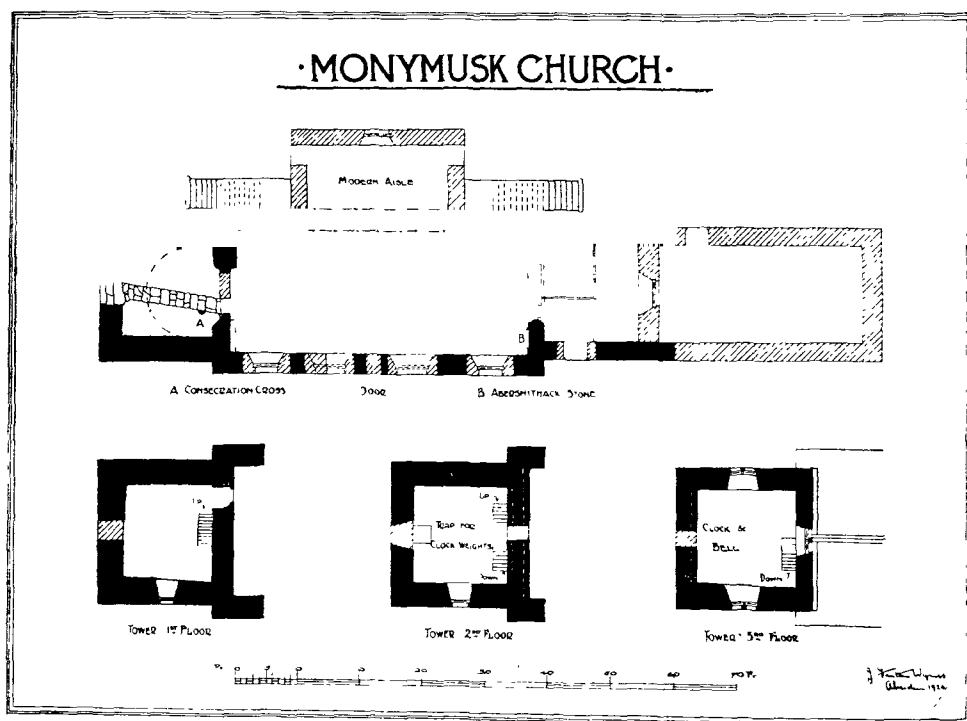


Fig. 6. Plans of Monymusk Church.

it bulges somewhat, and thereafter batters all the way up, the batter being accentuated on the upper third part. This indrawing of the wall-planes near the summit was doubtless for the purpose of relieving a corbelled parapet, as on the tower of Iona Cathedral. On the east side is an offset at 17 feet 8 inches from the present summit, or

<sup>1</sup> I do not know what the authority is for the statement by Mackenzie E. C. Walcott (*The Ancient Church of Scotland*, p. 322) that there was "a later polygonal apse."

<sup>2</sup> F. C. Eeles in *Proceedings*, vol. xlviii, p. 182, where the church is wrongly stated to have been dedicated to St Andrew. In medieval times the church contained several altars, including one to St Michael. Henderson, *Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions*, p. 295.

just below the roof ridge of the nave. The walls under this level are 3 feet 8 inches thick. The upper portion of the tower, under the modern parapet, has been much patched and partly reconstructed, but the substructure still exhibits the original Norman masonry undisturbed. On the free angles the quoins are carefully wrought in sandstone from Kildrummy. At the north-west angle these quoin-stones extend to a height of 24 feet 4 inches, and at the south-west angle to a height of 18 feet. Above this level the quoins are roughly wrought in local granite. On the north face of the tower the newer work above is very distinct, the junction at about three-quarters up the tower being fully apparent. The whole north-east angle above the nave has been rebuilt in rough nondescript rubble. On the south face of the tower, also, the masonry has been much disturbed, and the Norman work appears to cease shortly above half-way up. The masonry on the east face, above the nave, is featureless rubble work. Remains of an old roof-raggle exist above the present nave roof.

On the west front of the tower are visible several ancient openings. At the ground-level is the round arched doorway (fig. 7),<sup>1</sup> 6 feet 6 inches high and 3 feet 1 inch broad. The jambs and full-centred arch are wrought in Kildrummy sandstone and are absolutely plain. There are 6 jamb-stones on either side and 10 voussoirs. On the third jamb-stone from the bottom, at the north side, has been incised a bench-mark of the Ordnance Survey. Over the arch is a hood-moulding of triliteral section, springing from a plain stop. It is formed in 6 Kildrummy stones, and is rapidly wasting. There seems, however, to be no trace of an enrichment on the intermediate



[Photo J. F. Wyness.

Fig. 7. West Doorway, Monymusk Church.

<sup>1</sup> The session records show that in the eighteenth century this entrance, as "the most patent door of the church," was used for displaying public notices.

face, such as often occurs in Norman strings of this section. Indeed, a masculine boldness and robustness in detail, with a contempt for petty refinement, is characteristic of the ancient work in this church throughout. Over the door are successively:—(1) an open window, square-headed, with jambs and lintel in Kildrummy freestone; (2) a similar window, blocked; (3) a round-arched loop, blocked, with Kildrummy dressings, the arch being cut in a single stone; and (4) a large oblong window, blocked, which has been reconstructed, the dressings being partly in sandstone and partly in granite. On the south side of the tower are two modern windows, one above the other, with granite dressings,<sup>1</sup> and between them a narrow, blocked, square-headed loop, also with granite dressings. Over all, on the north, east, and south

faces, are modern belfry windows of two square-headed lights. The west face of the tower at this level is occupied by the clock-dial, which is dated 1865.

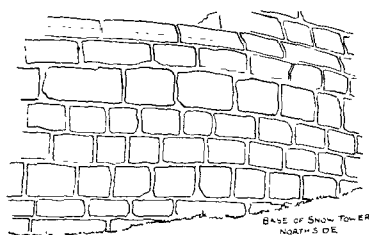


Fig. 8. Romanesque Masonry, Snow Tower, Kildrummy Castle.

The Norman masonry on the exterior of the tower is in red granite, formed of coursed ashlar, the blocks varying from cubical to oblong in shape, and the joints being very open, often as much as  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide. As frequently in Norman work, there is a notable tendency to build with-

out breaking bond, continuous vertical joints running through two or three courses. The red granite with its large felspar phenocrysts, often beautifully twinned, is different from that used elsewhere in the church.<sup>2</sup> It has been used for the Norman work throughout the building, and when weathered through centuries of exposure shows a very rich colour. The masonry has a highly characteristic appearance, and recalls—save for the difference in material—the freestone ashlar of Romanesque type (fig. 8), which occurs on the north face of the Snow Tower at Kildrummy Castle.<sup>3</sup> The tower is not bonded into the gable of the nave.

<sup>1</sup> In the upper window two of the jamb-stones are in freestone.

<sup>2</sup> This granite is said to have come from Tombeg. See Macpherson, p. 72; and cf. J. Ritchie in *Proceedings*, vol. li. pp. 46-7. Mr C. B. Bisset, M.A., B.Sc., Aberdeen, who kindly undertook a geological examination of the stone in the tower at my request, informs me that the granite is not from Tombeg. "The bottom courses," he writes, "to a height of 4 or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet, are built of a pink, even- and medium-grained granite. A similar rock is quarried in the Cunningar Wood, Cluny Castle,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile south of the church. Above this the walls are built of porphyritic granite of a distinctive type—pale pink with large crystals of felspar and smoky quartz in a fine-grained ground-mass. Rock identical with this is found in a quarry on the north-east slope of Pitfichie Hill, about 2 miles north of the church, and near Ord Mill. The quarry at Tombeg, 1 mile south-west, which is traditionally a source of the building stone, contains a fine to medium- and even-grained grey, yellow granite. No such rock is visible in the masonry of the lower part of the tower."

<sup>3</sup> See my *Castle of Kildrummy*, pp. 127-8.

(b) *Interior—Basement.*—The basement of the tower contains the porch giving access to the nave. It is waggon-vaulted, with an east-to-west axis. This vault is not original, and partly blocks the bay of the lowest window on the west face of the tower, the rear-arch of which emerges over the vault in the stage above. The vault is 13 feet 2 inches high above the present floor. The west door has a semicircular unmoulded rear-arch 7 feet 7 inches high. Above it is the window already referred to, which has a wide inward splay. Towards the nave the porch had opened by a semicircular freestone arch of two orders, 11 feet 9 inches high. This arch is partly built up, leaving a



[Photo J. Ritchie.]

Fig. 9. Cross in Floor of Tower, Monymusk Church.

low door of ingress,<sup>1</sup> and the piers and archivolt are nearly buried in plaster and limewash, so that it is almost impossible to describe their architectural features. The abaci have been heavy, square, and turned off below in a broad chamfer. All the walls and the vault are plastered and limewashed. The floor is of concrete, save for a medial paving of granite slabs. Near the nave arch, on the south side, is an incised cross (fig. 9), equal-armed, set within a circle  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.<sup>2</sup>

*First Floor.*—This is entered at the north-east corner from the west

<sup>1</sup> This door is off the central line of the nave, doubtless to suit a stair rising to the threshold of the slapped-out door which gives entry to the first floor of the tower. By this stair also access to the common loft would be obtained.

<sup>2</sup> I agree with Mr James Ritchie's view (*Proceedings*, vol. xlv. p. 349) that this stone is probably not in its original position.



gallery of the nave by a straight-headed door about 2 feet 6 inches broad and 5 feet 7 inches high. The door has a wooden rear-lintel beneath a roughly wrought relieving arch, partly in freestone. Although clearly an insertion, the door has every appearance of considerable age. On the north side behind the rebate are two bar holes, 5 inches square, and extending 9 inches back into the wall. As there are no corresponding bar holes on the south side, it is clear that the bolts must have plied upon the door.

This floor is lighted by one oblong window to the south, there is a built-up window to the west, and below it the freestone voussoirs of the semicircular rear-arch of the window lighting the upper part of the porch just rise clear of the stone floor, which is the upper surface of the inset vault. The masonry of the side walls of this floor is Norman and little altered, consisting of roughly dressed granitic ashlar blocks, regularly coursed, with very wide joints. The blocks are cubical, or oblong, but always high in the course, and frequently not breaking bond. Some of the larger stones are as much as 2 feet 5 inches long. An old bearing hole remains at the base of the north wall.

*Second Floor.*—The two upper floors are of wood, the joists bedded in the north and south walls resting on a central bressumer supported by a post. Wooden stairs give access up the east wall. On the second floor is a large oblong window in the south and west faces, the latter window being blocked. On the east side a low door leads out to the tie-beams of the nave roof. An arrangement of this sort is usual in Norman west towers, but the door in its present form is a late insertion. The masonry at this level has evidently been much renewed, and is largely uncoursed rubble-work of surface boulders. An exceptionally fine fragment of typical Norman work remains *in situ* in the north wall at the north-east corner. The blocks are cubical, or oblong high in the course, with joints about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide. Dressed granite quoin-stones are also visible in the lower parts of the other three corners. Two rows of bearing-holes, the upper row built up, are visible in this storey. On the east wall occurs an old floor-scarcement, 4 inches broad, 14 inches below the present third floor, and at a height of 21 feet 6 inches above the upper surface of the vault in the basement of the tower.

*Third Floor.*—The tower here seems to be wholly rebuilt. All the masonry is rough, featureless rubble. On the north, south, and east faces there are large modern belfry windows of two lights, with drop-centred rear-arches in brick. In the north jamb of the east window has been used an old granite rybat stone with roll and hollow moulding.

On the west wall is a scarcement, 5 inches broad, about 2 feet below the present flat roof, and also the bearing-hole for a joist about 3 feet 6 inches below the scarcement.

• This floor is largely taken up with the clock and bell. The bell, swung on two canons, is  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter and  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. Its base is enriched with bands of narrow filleted mouldings, and round the upper part is a broad zone of ornament containing festoon-and-tassel, *fleurs de lis*, and rosettes, with the inscription:—“IOAN · MOWAT · ME · FECIT · VET · ABD · 1748 · IN · USUM · ECCLESIE · DE · MONIEMUSK · SABBATA · PANGO · FUNERA · PLANGO.” The “P” in the last word is reversed through a mistake in the mould. Beautifully proportioned and enriched, and finely toned, this graceful bell is a notable example of Mowat’s skill. On the clock, a quaint piece of mechanism, is inscribed “Wil<sup>m</sup> Lunan. Aberdeen. 1792.”

*Roof.*—Dr Macpherson states that the tower was originally finished with an open parapet about 8 feet higher than the present one.<sup>1</sup> In 1822 this parapet was removed and some 14 feet of the walls, which showed signs of weakness, were taken down.<sup>2</sup> The curtailed tower was then roofed in with a tall and very handsome, octagonal, slated broach spire (fig. 10),



Fig. 10. Monymusk Church—view from S.W., showing old Spire.

<sup>1</sup> No doubt in Norman times the tower would finish with the usual stunted pyramidal spire—see M. H. Bloxam, *Principles of Gothic Architecture*, 11th ed., vol. i, pp. 103-4, with illustration from the seal of Kenilworth Priory. A similar roof is shown on a Romanesque tower in the most ancient seal of Holyrood, dated 1141 (figured in Sir D. Wilson, *Prehistoric Annals of Scotland*, 2nd ed., vol. ii, p. 363; and also by W. de Gray Birch, *History of Scottish Seals*, vol. ii, Pl. 104). The thirteenth-century chapter seals of St Andrews show a roof of this kind upon the tower of the Norman Church of St Rule—see J. Russell Walker, *Pre-Reformation Churches in Fifeshire*, Church of St Regulus, Pl. 4; also Birch, *op. cit.*, vol. ii, Pl. 66. The subject of Norman tower roofs has recently been discussed by E. Tyrrell-Green, *Parish Church Architecture*, pp. 107-11.

<sup>2</sup> *New Statistical Account*, Aberdeenshire, p. 469; Macpherson, pp. 71-2.

40 feet in height, showing a just perceptible entasis. This beautifully proportioned spire was a remarkable triumph of local craftsmanship, and formed a striking object in the views around Monymusk for several miles in every direction. It is not a little surprising to find a spire of such decidedly medieval feeling erected here so late as 1822, on the very eve of the Gothic Revival. The Monymusk spire, however, may be compared with that which, dating from 1728, still beautifully crowns the tower of Dornoch Cathedral.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, the Monymusk spire was allowed to fall into decay, and in 1891 it was removed, and the present flat leaded roof, behind inartistic battlements in Kemnay granite, was erected in its stead. On the middle embrasure on the west side is incised the date 1891.

In its original condition the tower, or so much of it as still remains, was five storeys high, as appears from a consideration of the ancient windows on the west face, and from the scarcements and other indications still visible on the interior walls. To these we must doubtless add a sixth storey in the upper portion taken down in 1822. There is no evidence of a stone newel stair, such as exists in the Norman towers of Dunblane, Dunning, Kirkliston, and Markinch. Originally the tower must have been ascended by a series of ladders and hatches in the various floors. The insertion of a vault in the basement cut off all direct communication with the upper storeys, and these must then have been reached from within the church by a stair up to the door then slapped out at the north-east corner.

*Nave*—(a) *Exterior*.—The south wall (fig. 10) is in substance Norman, but has been greatly altered at several periods. The quoins are in Kildrummy stone except at the upper part of the south-east angle, where granite stones have been substituted. At present there are six modern round arched windows in this wall, and remains of a window and a door,<sup>2</sup> both blocked, with granite dressings, may be seen at the ground-level. The north wall of the nave has been almost destroyed by the modern aisle, in which a large number of the red Norman stones have been reused, particularly in the upper part. The north-west quoin is in sandstone, rebuilt above in granite. One of the granite quoin-stones here shows a roll-moulding set on a chamfer. Except for the granite skew-putt, the north-east quoin is wholly in sandstone. On one of the sandstone blocks are incised the initials I. F.,<sup>3</sup> and on another the ligatured initials H. F., and the date 1692. All these letters

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 232, fig. 3.

<sup>2</sup> The door is no doubt that "struck out hard by the pulpit" in 1685—see *supra*, p. 50.

<sup>3</sup> Henderson (*Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions*, p. 295) suggests that this is for Sir John Forbes, third baronet.

are now greatly wasted. One jamb, in granite, of a built-up window is still visible in the north wall, near the east corner. The aisle enters at either end by outside stairs against the north wall of the nave. On the east gable, which is of coursed old masonry and contains two modern roof-lights, is seen the raggle of an old chancel roof, at a higher level than the roof of the present vestry. The height of the nave walls now is 22 feet 6 inches; but originally, as revealed by the raggle against the tower, the walls had been a few feet higher. The present roof dates from 1822.<sup>1</sup>

(b) *Interior*.—Except the chancel arch, no ancient work is now visible in the interior of the nave. The walls are masked with trashy lath and plaster, there is an embowed plaster roof of mean aspect, and hideous galleries have been intruded into the east and west ends and in the modern north aisle.

The chancel arch has been appallingly maltreated, but is still a feature of exceptional interest. On the south side the pier is intact, and consists of a central bearing shaft, semi-circular on plan, about 12 inches in diameter, flanked by half-engaged nook-shafts. Between the shafts emerges the square arris of the pier. The bases, which are beneath the floor, have been completely hacked away.<sup>2</sup> All three shafts carry cushion capitals (fig. 11), rising from a neck-mould, slightly stilted in profile, and the capitals have heavy abaci, the under sides of which are turned off in a broad chamfer.<sup>3</sup> The capital of the bearing shaft is invected, and the escallops are separated by a moulding in the form of a half cone, supported by the neck-mould. On the in-go face the abacus has been cut as if for a screen. The capitals of the nook-shafts are plain cushions, with a semicircular cone-moulding rising from the neck-mould

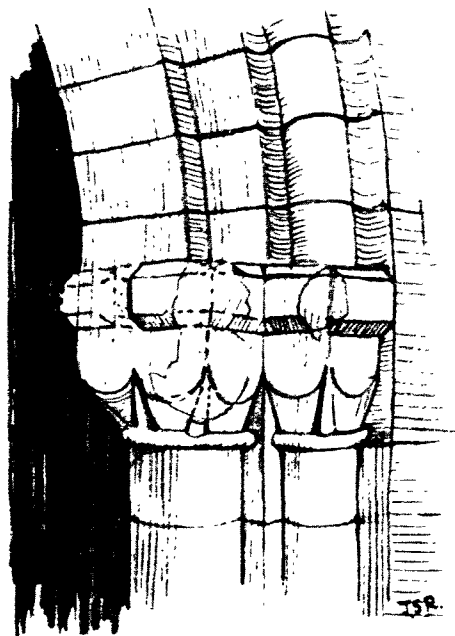


Fig. 11. S.E. Pier of Chancel Arch, Monymusk Church.

<sup>1</sup> *New Statistical Account*, Aberdeenshire, p. 469.

<sup>2</sup> They may be examined by lifting the hatch which gives access to an old heating flue beneath the flooring here.

<sup>3</sup> In the sketch the upper edge also of the abaci is shown as chamfered. Owing to the extremely damaged state of the capitals it is difficult to be certain on this point.

to the angle. The north pier has been fearfully hashed. The bearing-shaft is gone, and its place taken by a miserable sham in painted wood. Its capital has been hacked away. The capital of the nook-shaft towards the nave has a plain groove instead of the half cone. In the chancel the nook-shaft has been obscured by a stokehouse built up hard against it; behind which abomination it may be dimly seen, and appears to be intact, with capital of the usual form.

The semicircular archivolt arising from these capitals is partly concealed by the east gallery. It is in two orders. The inner, which is quite plain, springs from the capitals of the bearing-shafts, while the outer rests on the lateral nook-shafts. The outer order consists of a massive quirked bowtell, one quarter engaged, and set within a broad one-quarter cavetto. The height to the apex of the chancel arch, reckoned from the modern floor, is 10 feet 10 inches.

All the foregoing details of the chancel have been much obscured by repeated coats of ochre. The material is Kildrummy stone throughout, and the shafts are built in separate stones. In the archivolt are 27 voussoirs, the springer on either side being wrought with a level upper bed as a kind of *tas-de-charge*. Medieval masons were always anxious to economise in centering, and it is remarkable how regularly this trick of building is found, even when the arch is of comparatively narrow span. Here the space between the piers has been about 8 feet 6 inches. It is now blocked by a wooden partition, in which is a small door leading to the vestry and coal-hole.

*Chancel—(a) Exterior.*—The walls of the structure now occupying the place of a chancel are 2 feet 9 inches thick and 13 feet 4 inches high, with a plain modern coping of Correen stone (andalusite mica-schist). Originally the walls had been somewhat higher, as shown by the old roof-raggle against the gable of the nave. The south and east walls are almost entirely masked by ivy. Near the centre of the north wall is a door, 7 feet 1 inch high and 3 feet 6 inches wide, with freestone jambs and granite lintel. As far eastward as the west jamb of this door the masonry is apparently of Norman character, very similar to that in the tower but inferior in finish, and somewhat lower in the course. Beyond the door the masonry is partly coursed rubble of later date. As far as can be seen through the ivy, a similar change in masonry takes place at about the same point in the south wall. The evidence is thus clear that the eastern part of the chancel has been rebuilt, and this conclusion is confirmed by an examination of its interior. A modern door has been opened in the south wall close to the nave, in order to give access to the vestry.

*(b) Interior.*—The western portion of the chancel, enclosing an area about 15 feet square, has been walled off and roofed in to form a

vestry and coal-hole. The eastward extension is roofless, and is used as the burial-ground of the Grants of Monymusk. There is no trace of any windows, or of a piscina, bench, and aumbry, and the interior presents no features of interest. Old freestone rybats have been re-used in the east window of the vestry. Some are grooved for glass, and one has a half bowtell set on the chamfer. This stone is a fragment of some work considerably later than most of that appearing in the ancient parts of the church. The type of moulding suggests a date about 1580-1600.

The entire absence of windows and ecclesiological detail in the roofless eastward extension, and the whole character of this building, suggest that it was designed to serve its present purpose of a burial enclosure. The difficulty was felt by Dr Macpherson, who hints a doubt as to whether the whole of this burial enclosure was really included in the chancel.<sup>1</sup> The evidence bearing on the question is exceedingly obscure. In the *New Statistical Account*, dated November 1840, we are told that "the eastern part of the church, commonly called the quire, and now seated for about 40 persons, is connected with the main part of the building by a large opening through the end wall, arched in form of a semicircle."<sup>2</sup> This statement makes it quite clear that the portion east of the chancel arch then under roof must have extended beyond the present vestry, which would not seat anything like forty persons. Moreover, Dr Macpherson himself remarks that "there is no tradition that the part without a roof was added in later times, and one of our oldest parishioners recollects that her parents used to speak of seeing the whole under one roof, and of there being access to the whole from the nave." Again, in a note of the seating in the church, 14th December 1825, the ground area, west, north, and east galleries, and "*east aisle*" are mentioned, the aisle having six pews 9 feet 2 inches long, and two pews 4 feet long. In a note of "Alterations made in July 1851" the east aisle is omitted. This may indicate that the chancel was abandoned at that date. All this literary evidence is so far confirmed by the fact that the east wall of the vestry is an obvious insertion, butting without bond against the lateral walls of the chancel, in which the distinctive red Norman masonry is seen to pass behind the inserted cross-wall. It is thus at all events clear that the Norman chancel extended out beyond the present vestry. On the other hand, it is hard to believe that the burial enclosure, with its lack of any ecclesiological detail and its windowless walls, could ever have formed an integral part of the church. A way out of the *impasse* could be found if we assume that

<sup>1</sup> Macpherson, p. 74.

<sup>2</sup> *New Statistical Account*, Aberdeenshire, p. 469.

the east end of the Norman chancel was demolished, the present cross-wall enclosing the vestry inserted further to the west, and the burial enclosure erected eastward, all at a date subsequent to 1840, when the original chancel was roofed and in use as stated by the *New Statistical Account*. But this assumption only involves us in a fresh set of difficulties. In the first place, if so important an alteration had taken effect so recently as after 1840, it is incredible that all memory of it would have been lost when Dr Macpherson, who came to Monymusk in 1868, published his book in 1895. On the contrary, as we have seen, what local tradition he was able to glean pointed all in the other direction. And in the second place, the masonry of the burial enclosure has no appearance of being so late as after 1840, while the north door into it, the freestone jambs of which are considerably weathered, seems distinctly to belong to the late seventeenth or eighteenth century.

Though simple, the details of Monymusk Church are good and quite decided in style, and leave us in no doubt as to the approximate date of the work. The depth of the hollows flanking the bowtell in the chancel arch, producing a prominent relief in light and shade; the stilted profile of the neck-mould; and the half cone dividing the escalloping of the cushions, are all features marking a late period in the Norman style, or in the last quarter of the twelfth century. At the same time, there is nothing which in any degree suggests Transitional work, such as is found, in this part of the country, in the transepts of St Nicholas' Kirk at Aberdeen and in the south doorway of the Kirk of Auchindoir.<sup>1</sup> Precisely the same inference may be drawn from the character of the masonry. Norman ashlar work is typically formed of cubical blocks with open jointing. As the Romanesque style passed into the Gothic, the stones grew longer and lower in the course, and the jointing became exceedingly close, until in thirteenth-century ashlar it is often hardly possible to insert a knife-blade between the stones.<sup>2</sup> Here at Monymusk the change is already beginning: the stones, though still often square, tend distinctly to length, but the joints remain very wide. Bearing all these facts in mind, it can hardly be doubted that the church is part of the buildings erected by Gilchrist, Earl of Mar, and the Mar connection is confirmed by the use of Kildrummy stone.

The only monument of historic interest now preserved in the church is illustrated in fig. 12. It measures 3 feet 9 inches high and

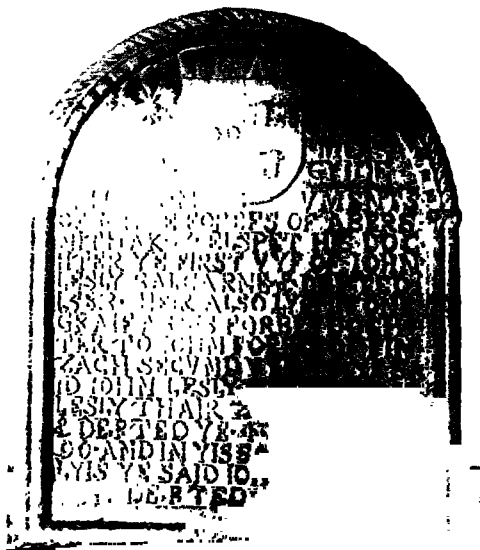
<sup>1</sup> See my *Castle of Kildrummy*, p. 64, fig. 12.

<sup>2</sup> The transition between the two types of masonry is beautifully illustrated by the early and later thirteenth-century ashlar at Kildrummy Castle—*ibid.*, pp. 124-8, and fig. 36.

3 feet broad. The shield is charged: *dexter*, on a fess three buckles, for Leslie; impaled with *sinister*, three bears' heads couped muzzled, for Forbes. Particulars as to the persons commemorated are given in Dr Macpherson's book.<sup>1</sup> In the churchyard one early gravestone remains (fig. 13). It is a small rounded block of granite, bearing on its west face an incised cross, equal-armed, measuring 5½ inches either way, the arms finishing with expanded terminals. This stone is situated on the south side of the churchyard a little east of the manse gate. In 1823, the interesting discovery was made in the churchyard of a Moorish gold coin, which had perhaps been buried with a crusader or pilgrim. The coin, which is now at Monymusk House, was identified as belonging to the Murabetin dynasty of Morocco, and bears the Arabic date 491 (A.D. 1097).<sup>2</sup> It measures 1 inch in diameter, and is in beautiful condition, having clearly been in brief circulation before the moment of burial.

On 8th October 1924, at a point 53 feet northward along the wall from the private gate leading from the church into the grounds of Monymusk House, and 15 feet east from the wall, two presumably Christian burials were discovered in the course of drainage operations. The skeletons, which were in a much decayed state, lay at a depth of 4 feet. Both lay extended in an east-to-west direction, facing eastward, the feet of the one being at the head of the other. No relics of any kind were discovered along with the skeletons.

Among the minor properties of the church possessing an antiquarian



[Photo W. Norrie.]

Fig. 12. The Abersnithack Stone.

<sup>1</sup> Pp. 184-5.

<sup>2</sup> See *New Statistical Account*, p. 464. In a manuscript note dated 22nd March 1827, by William Marsden, F.R.S., to whom the coin was submitted, the inscription is rendered as follows:—"Prince Yūsuf ben Tashfin--Whosoever professes any other religion than that of Islamism will in no case be accepted of God but shall utterly perish at the last day. Al-Imām Abdallah, commander of the faithful--In the name of God this piece of money was coined in the city of Marākash in the year 491."



interest, there may be noted four links of the "jougs"; a Bible with the arms and initials of Charles II., which was purchased by the session in 1679 at a cost of £15, 6s. 8d. Scots<sup>1</sup>; and six silver communion cups, four of which were bought in June 1691 at a cost of £125, 2s. Scots,<sup>2</sup> and the other two in March 1712. The cost of the latter is specified in some detail. The cups weighed 23 ounces and 12 drams at £3, 4s. per ounce, making £76, to which was added £9, 10s. for workmanship and £1, 4s. for engraving, thus bringing up the total cost to £86. 14s. Scots.<sup>3</sup> There



[Photo J. Ritchie.]

Fig. 13. Incised Cross, Monymusk Churchyard.

is also a silver baptismal bowl, made in London in 1726-7, and presented by Lady Grant to the church in 1772.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Session Records*, 10th and 24th August 1679. The cost is entered in the "account of debursed money" under that year.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 18th and 25th January, 21st June (wrongly entered May), and 28th June 1691. In the same year "thre hand mettall basons wt an ewer, tuo of them for holding the elements, & the other wt the ewer for holding the water when children are baptized." were bought for £16, 3s. Scots—*ibid.*, 5th July, 25th October, and 1st November 1691.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 9th March 1712. These six communion cups, which are of great beauty, are described in Macpherson, p. 258, and more fully in *Old Scottish Communion Plate*, by Rev. T. Burns, pp. 430-1.

<sup>4</sup> *Session Records*, 9th August 1772; Macpherson, p. 284.

## III. THE PARISH CHURCH AND THE PRIORY.

Having thus completed our examination of the church, the problem that faces us is this: what were its relations to the monastery that it adjoined? Was it the Parish Church, or the church of the Priory? Dr Joseph Robertson<sup>1</sup> and Messrs MacGibbon and Ross<sup>2</sup> took the view that the church was the monastic place of worship, while Dr Macpherson considered that it was a joint concern, the nave serving the parish and the chancel or choir the Priory. Assuming that the present eastward extension stood for the ancient chancel, he argued that the relatively great size of this portion, which is slightly longer than the nave, was due to the fact of its having been specially appropriated to the service of the canons.<sup>3</sup> In favour of Dr Macpherson's view may be set forth the following considerations:—

(1) The Constitution of 1211, in which the most absolute accuracy and fulness of language were obviously essential, describes the various monastic buildings—including the oratory which was at Balvack—but *does not specify a church*. Moreover, it is expressly provided that there was to be no monastic cemetery, the Culdees using the parish churchyard. If the monastery had possessed a church of its own, we may expect that it would have been inventoried. Again, the official proviso, inserted with distinct stress, that the Culdees were “to do nothing to the hurt of the parish church,” taken along with the absence of any mention of a monastic church, suggests that the Culdees had an interest of some kind in the parochial church. Otherwise the words seem meaningless. Moreover, the same document clearly states that the Culdees had a right to one-fourth part of the dues in respect of those buried in the parish cemetery. An instrument of 8th December 1533 is done “within the cemetery of Monymusk,”<sup>4</sup> while another instrument, dated 3rd October 1525, referring to the casting of a new common seal for the Priory, is done “within the cemetery of the said monastery.”<sup>5</sup> As the Constitution of 1211 lays down that there was to be only one cemetery in the parish, the above two writs seem to show that the cemetery at all events was a joint one, belonging equally to the Parish Church and the Priory. Considered along with the absence of any mention of a Priory Church in the Constitution of 1211, this fact certainly lends colour to the view that

<sup>1</sup> In his essay on “Scottish Abbeys and Cathedrals” (*Quarterly Review*, June 1849; reprinted Aberdeen, 1891, p. 36) he classes Monymusk along with Scottish conventual churches in the Romanesque style.

<sup>2</sup> *Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 218.

<sup>3</sup> Macpherson, pp. 74–5.

<sup>4</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. p. 499.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 487.

the church, like the cemetery which surrounds it, belonged jointly to the Priory and the parish.

(2) Bishop John of Aberdeen's charter speaks of "the monastery which Earl Gilchrist built at Munimusc in the Church of St Mary in which Culdees formerly were." This language is very unusual. It strongly points to the Church of St Mary being something pre-existent and apart from, though connected with, the monastery. Had it been merely the Priory Church, it would have been unnecessary to specify it in this way.

(3) The immediate juxtaposition, within 40 yards' distance of each other, of the Parish Church and the monastic buildings points to their close association. It hardly seems likely that the Priory would have been erected so close to the church had there not been some definite connection between them—particularly as there are otherwise no special advantages in the monastic site. Indeed it may be urged that, if the canons had not wished to have their convent as near as possible to the Parish Church which was to be in part their place of worship, they would more likely have selected a stance nearer the stream that runs through the manse grounds,<sup>1</sup> and might readily have been made available for the drainage of the reredorter.

(4) Dr Macpherson preserves the fact that the west door of the church was called the "civil door."<sup>2</sup> This seems to confirm the dual character of the building as a partly parochial and partly conventual place of worship.

(5) The part control that the Bishop of St Andrews exercised over the Parish Church—which was a mensal church of St Andrews as well as a prebend of Aberdeen—shows that the connection between the Augustinian house of St Andrews and its impropriated priory at Monymusk went hand in hand with a parallel connection between the episcopal see of St Andrews and this extra-diocesan parochial church. Such a parallel connection is explicable on the theory of the dual status of the church.

(6) It is clear from the writs that the Parish Church and the monastic church were both dedicated to St Mary.<sup>3</sup> But in the entire *corpus* of documents relating to the parish and Priory, there is none which indicates the existence of two separate "churches of St Mary of Monymusk," while there is also none that is inconsistent with the view that the Parish Church also served the monastery. Moreover, a

<sup>1</sup> This stream is mentioned in the Forbes charter of circa 1584: "*ex boreali parte torentis currentis ad dictum locum.*"—*Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 184.

<sup>2</sup> Macpherson, p. 73.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 584: "Monimusk hath for its tutelar the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY."

writ dated 15th December 1522, recording the induction and investiture of Prior Fairlie, describes the ceremony as taking place first in the chapter-house and thereafter in the choir of the church, and speaks of the prior's "usual and accustomed place in the chapter and stall in the choir."<sup>1</sup> Unless we assume that within 50 yards of each other there were two Churches of St Mary, both with choirs, this writ seems to confirm Dr Macpherson's idea that the choir of the present church was used as the monastic chapel.

On the other hand may be adduced the following arguments:—

(1) The plan of the church, with its western tower and lack of transepts, is that of a parochial, not a monastic building.<sup>2</sup>

(2) In the *View of the Diocese of Aberdeen, 1732*, the Priory Church is expressly mentioned as distinct from the parochial place of worship.<sup>3</sup>

(3) The fact that in the Constitution of 1211 no church for the use of the Culdees is specified, may be met by the objection that this document was drawn up for the Culdees before their conversion into Canons Regular. While the Culdees may have used the Parish Church, ordinary practice would suggest that the Canons Regular who succeeded them would erect a monastic church for their own use. If we assume that the canons inherited cloistral buildings erected for the use of the Culdees, and in close proximity to the Parish Church where the latter had worshipped, this would explain the nearness of the Priory to the church.

(4) Dr Macpherson's suggestion that the great length of the chancel is due to its having been appropriated to the canons, is weakened by the fact that there is no proof that the east wall of the present burial enclosure, whatever its date and original purpose, represents the east end of the Norman chancel. All we can say is that the chancel certainly extended further east than the inserted cross-wall that now terminates the roofed part of the church.

(5) The arrangement of a parish church serving also in part as the church of a monastery, the conventual buildings of which were structurally separate, seems to be unparalleled,<sup>4</sup> and must have been attended

<sup>1</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. pp. 484-5.

<sup>2</sup> On the question of plan no help is afforded by the sixteenth-century common seal of the monastery, which exhibits, on the reverse, a purely conventional picture of a church of Pointed architecture, with nave, choir, transepts, and central *flèche*; on the obverse, within a Gothic niche the Blessed Virgin and Child. The seal is figured in Dr J. S. F. Gordon's *Ecclesiastical Chronicle for Scotland, Monasticon*, p. 101. The reverse is also illustrated on the title-page of Dr Macpherson's book. I have examined originals appended to writs in Monymusk House.

<sup>3</sup> *Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 584.

<sup>4</sup> Indeed, on quite general grounds it may be said that the burden of proving a case so unique must lie entirely with those who make it, and that without the most positive evidence such an arrangement as Dr Macpherson imagined cannot be taken for granted.

with serious practical inconvenience. According to normal custom, the monastic church would form one side of a cloistral group of buildings, the dorter gable abutting in the usual way against the church in order to provide a night entrance. It is difficult to believe that the canons would have crossed some 40 yards of open ground in order to attend the nocturnal hours. But no vestige of tusking, roof-plate, corbel-table, or joist-holes remains to indicate that any building has ever abutted against the north side of either the nave or the chancel (so far as preserved).

(6) A joint occupancy of the church by the monastery and the parish would have raised questions about the cost of upkeep of the fabric, as between the prior and the rector, and their respective superiors, the Prior of St Andrews and the Bishop of Aberdeen. It is hard to imagine that this dual control would not have led to overlapping and friction, and that the two ecclesiastical bodies concerned, regular and secular, would have worked always in harmony. Yet there is no documentary evidence of any dispute, with the single exception of the proviso in the Constitution of 1211 that the Culdees shall do no hurt to the Parish Church.

(7) A writ dated 6th February 1535 concerning the strife between Prior Fairlie and his subordinates, is "done within the *nave of the church of the said monastery*."<sup>1</sup> But on the theory that the chancel of the Parish Church was appropriated to the canons, the nave was under the jurisdiction of the rector or vicar, and would not ordinarily be available for monastic business.

As will be seen from the arguments marshalled above for either view, the problem is an obscure one. It can be solved only by thorough excavation on the site of the conventual buildings, and also at the church, in order to reveal what the Norman east end was like.

In writing this paper, I have enjoyed the interest of two successive parish ministers of Monymusk, the late Rev. Fred. W. Lovie, M.C., M.A., and the Rev. J. Grant Forbes, M.A., both of whom readily gave facilities for making the survey and taking photographs of the church, while Mr Grant Forbes also kindly allowed me access to the Session Records. To Colonel Sir Arthur Grant, D.S.O., C.B.E., D.L., Baronet of Monymusk, I am indebted for permission to take notes and measurements of Monymusk House, and for access to the sculptured stone, the Brecbannoch, the Moorish coin, the writs, and other historical material preserved in the house. Mr William Norrie, F.S.A.Scot., Aberdeen,

<sup>1</sup> *Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, vol. iii. p. 490. The writ of 17th March 1549 speaks of "the doors of the church of the Priory of Monymusk."—*Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, p. 179.

supplied the photographs at figs. 5 and 12, and Mr J. Fenton Wyness, Aberdeen, prepared the measured drawings and took the photograph at fig. 7. The drawing at fig. 11 was made by Mr James S. Richardson, F.S.A.Scot., H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, who has also done me the honour to read carefully through my manuscript and to go over the church in my company, and has furnished me with much helpful criticism, whereby I have been able to improve my description in several important respects.

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MONDAY, 12th *January* 1925.

JOHN BRUCE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

GEORGE M. DAVIDSON, Architect and Surveyor, Thorndon, Dunblane.  
 Rev. RODERICK MACCOWAN, Free Church Manse, Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire.  
 Rev. DONALD MACKINNON, Free Church Manse, Portree, Skye.  
 WALTER GRAHAM MONTGOMERY, Kinross House, Kinross.  
 JOHN MITCHELL MURDOCH, Editor, *Ayrshire Post*, Caxton, 41 Craigie Road, Ayr.  
 JOHN SMITH, 25 St James Square.  
 Miss RANOLINA STEWART, 23 Blacket Place.  
 J. FENTON WYNESS, 45 Salisbury Terrace, Aberdeen.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By The Hon. Madame NASOS, from the collection of her father, the late Lord Abercromby, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Flint Arrow-head, barbed, measuring  $\frac{1\frac{5}{8}}{1\frac{5}{8}}$  inch by  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch, of greyish-yellow colour, found in a grave under a cairn known as Carn Glas, at Kilcoy, Ross-shire, 10th March 1906, in the presence of Lord Abercromby.

Half of a slate Mould, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch, with a circular matrix on one side for casting a badge, showing a quadruped with the Greek letters  $\Phi$  A on either side, from Crete.

Stone Whorl, measuring  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter and  $\frac{17}{32}$  inch thick, from Fife.

Hemispherical hand-made Vessel of clay, measuring  $3\frac{5}{16}$  inches in diameter externally at the mouth and  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch in height, with a very thin wall of dark coloured ware, and a rim fragment of another hand-made clay Vessel, measuring  $4\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length by  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches in height, of hard reddish ware with smooth surface, ornamented in the hollow under the rim with groups of obliquely curved incised lines, and on the



Fig. 1. Cinerary Urn from St Andrews.

top of the rim with straight oblique lines; this piece shows a perforation in the wall. Both from Ghadenova, Perm, Russia.

(2) By D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Cinerary Urn, restored and partly made up, a height of 9 inches of the wall remaining, but the base wanting (fig. 1); it measures 10 inches in external diameter at the mouth and 10 inches at the bulge. The upright brim,  $3\frac{3}{8}$  inches in height, is divided into two zones by a slight, raised moulding: the upper zone is  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches broad, and is encircled with three rows of loops or semicircular cord impressions, and the lower zone, which has six vertical projections or lugs placed at not quite

regular intervals, has two rows of similar impressions. The tapering lower part of the vessel, down to the base, shows the impressions of a circular stamp,  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter, some in vertical and some in horizontal lines, but exhibiting no regular pattern. The top of the brim, which is bevelled downwards towards the inside and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch broad, has two rows of similar markings. The ware is red on the exterior and black inside. The urn was found in the garden at Westerlee, on the western outskirts of St Andrews, about forty years ago.

In its form and in its being decorated on the lower part, this urn resembles a food-vessel, but from its size and the quality of the ware it seems to fall into the cinerary type.

(3) By JAMES CURLE, F.S.A.Scot.

An undressed Stone, pointed towards both ends, inserted in a wooden handle, from Bogancloch, Rhynie, Aberdeenshire. (See previous communication by Mr Curle.)

(4) By G. P. H. WATSON, F.S.A.Scot.

Door-knocker of iron in the form of a circular plate,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, with a low-domed centre surrounded by concave mouldings, and the knocker in the form of a ring,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, with a five-petalled rosette at the top and bottom, from Deacon Brodie's house in the Lawnmarket.

Toaster of wrought iron for fixing on to the ribs of a grate, with a sliding D-shaped back, having two broad crossed straps of metal terminating in four spirals fixed to the top and sides.

(5) By J. HEWAT CRAW, F.S.A.Scot.

Dressed Slab of sandstone (fig. 2), measuring  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches long,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches broad, and 4 inches thick, showing a cross with a ring in the centre of the head, a bar crossing the centre of the shaft, and a marginal moulding all round. In the centre of the cross-head, within the ring, is a well-cut cup,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter and  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches deep, while in the panels between the arms and at the sides of the shaft are deeply cut cavities showing rough tooling in the



Length 13 1/4 inches

Fig. 2. Object of Sandstone from Lowick Lowsteads.



bottom, found by Mr Hogg, West Kyle, on the farm of Lowick Lowsteads, Lowick, Northumberland, about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile south-east of Lowick village.

(6) By JAMES S. RICHARDSON, F.S.A.Scot.

Quadrangular Plaque of slate, measuring  $4\frac{1}{16}$  inches by  $3\frac{1}{16}$  inches by  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch, with an arris at one end formed by grinding from both sides, and the sides rounded also by grinding, found outside Tantallon Castle, East Lothian.

(7) By J. M. CORRIE, F.S.A.Scot.

Six Pigmy Flints from Dryburgh, Berwickshire: (1) pointed, imperfect, measuring  $\frac{2}{3}\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, calcined; (2) trapezoidal, measuring  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch by  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch, of dark grey colour; (3-5) measuring  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, and  $\frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch respectively, of grey colour, all dressed along both sides and pointed at each end; (6) measuring  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch, imperfect, dressed along both sides, of light grey colour.

(8) By WILLIAM T. MUIR, Corresponding Member.

Stone Object with three large notches on each side opposite each other, measuring  $4\frac{5}{8}$  inches long,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad, and  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch thick, from an "old knowe" on the farm of Howally, Birsay, Orkney.

(9) By CHARLES M. STEWART, Soilarzie, Blackwater, by Blairgowrie.

Finely made Whetstone of brown quartzite, wanting one end, measuring  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches long and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch square at the centre; it tapers to  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch square at the perfect end, found on Easter Bleaton, Blackwater, Glenshee, Forfarshire, in 1894.

The following Donations to the Library were also intimated:—

(1) By HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

Calendar of the Fine Rolls. Vol. viii. Edward III. 1368-77.

(2) By The Hon. Madame NASOS.

Some of the notes compiled by The Right Hon. Lord Abercromby, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., in writing his book *A Study of the Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland*.

(3) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot.

The Deeside Field, No. 2, 1925.

(4) By Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Taymouth Castle—a Hôtel de Luxe—and its Historical Traditions.  
Pamphlet.

(5) By R. L. SCOTT, F.S.A.Scot.

Catalogue of the Collection of European Arms and Armour formed  
at Greenock by R. L. Scott. Described by Felix Joubert, F.S.A.Scot.  
3 vols. Printed for private circulation.

(6) By J. LOGAN MACK, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The Border Line from the Solway Firth to the North Sea along the  
Marches of Scotland and England.

(7) By Dr J. MAXWELL WOOD, F.S.A.Scot., the Editor.

The Gallovidian Annual, 1924.

The following Communications were read:—

## I.

### NOTES ON OLD WELLS AND A STONE CIRCLE AT KENMORE.

By Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D., F.S.A.Scot.

In the old *Statistical Account* of Kenmore, published in 1796, the Rev. Colin Macvean, who was then minister of the parish, wrote as follows about wells:—

“In this parish are several Tiobaits, or wells, the waters of which were of old supposed to be possessed of healing qualities; some were good for the toothache, some for sore eyes, etc. Now, however, they are very seldom visited.”

Since coming to the parish, thirteen years ago, I have endeavoured to trace the “tiobaits” (properly “tiobairts”) referred to, and have been successful in locating five of them.

The first is situated in the glen leading from Claggan, above Ardtalnaig to Dunan, near the source of the river Almond. The glen is known as A Chalfhinn, which means “the white meadow.” This pass used to be much frequented in olden times by people who travelled between Loch Tayside and Strathearn. The well was close to the path which leads through the glen on the west side at the foot

of the Shee of Ardtalnaig, about 1 mile from the shepherd's house at Tomflour. Its water was believed to be an effective cure for pining infants, and since coming to Kenmore I met a woman who, fifty years ago, had accompanied a mother on foot all the way from Aberfeldy to this well with an infant child. The child improved in health after its immersion at the dawn of day in the cold spring.

The second well is on the farm of Acharn, above the Falls and close to the old bridge known as Drochaid Bhragaid (the bridge of the brae). Until a generation ago, people were in the habit of going there to wish, when they threw in small offerings. It has now fallen into neglect and is absorbed in the marsh.

The third well is on the farm of Portbane, about 1 mile west from Kenmore, and close to the public road leading to Acharn. At one time it may have been a dip well, but now the spring issues as a strong spout from the bank. I have not been able to ascertain for what ailment its waters were considered a remedy, but consumptive persons have been known to develop a great craving for this water and had it brought to them. It is still called An Tiobairt, and no doubt gave its name to the old village which at one time was situated some distance above it on the farm, and which was known as Bal-natiobairt. The old dry stone walls may still be seen.

The fourth well lies at an elevation of 1000 feet on the hillside, about  $\frac{5}{8}$  of a mile south-east of the famous stone circle at Croftmorag, about 3 miles east from Kenmore. It is called Tobar nan dileag (the well of the drips). The water drips from a rock into a basin below. It was regarded as a certain cure for whooping-cough, and there are old people still in the neighbourhood who were brought there as children when they had that trouble.

The fifth well is probably the best known of the whole five. It is situated on the north side of the river Tay, about 2 miles below Kenmore Bridge. It is at the foot of a high bank that encloses the meadow of Poll Tairbh. It is a splendid spring of fine water and scarcely ever varies in its flow. A short distance to the south there used to stand the ancient church, churchyard, and vicarage of Inschadney, as well as the village of that name. All these were removed about a hundred and twenty years ago, when the fields in the neighbourhood were included in the Taymouth policies. Nothing remains to-day to indicate the important character of the place except the road which passed to the old ford on the river, and the foundation of the wall that enclosed the churchyard. Here, it may be mentioned, is buried the Dean of Lismore, who made the first collection of Scottish Gaelic poetry. So far, indeed, has modern vandalism gone, that a wire

fence passing through the sacred acre divides the churchyard between two different proprietors. The well is surrounded by a few fine old beeches and oaks, and there is a broad walk leading down the grassy bank to it. Great numbers of people frequented this well in olden times, and after the policies were enclosed it was found necessary to open the gates to admit the pilgrims, especially at such seasons as Bealltuinn (May day, O.S.). Ten years ago the Marchioness of Breadalbane, whose attention had been directed to the sacred character of these wells, had this one and that on Portbane cleaned. The old man who did the work told me he found a stone with markings on it at the Inschadney well. He had placed the stone in the bottom, and I went and got it lifted out. It is flat and irregular in shape, measuring 21 inches in length and 16 inches in breadth, and bears a rude cross that had been cut into it with a sharp instrument near the centre. The cross is little more than a deep scratch, and somewhat resembles a St Andrew's cross, the limbs of which measure  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches and 7 inches in length respectively. After finding the stone I examined the bottom, and discovered in the mud a very rudely made circular stone cup, 7 inches in diameter and  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches in height, with a cavity  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch deep and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches across. A bit was broken from the rim, but I afterwards found it, so that the cup is now entire. I also picked out three corroded copper coins, three metal buttons, an opalescent glass bead, and six wire-headed pins which had been thrown in at different periods. One coin is a farthing of George III. dated 1806, but the other two are much older; however, they are so worn and thin from corrosion that they cannot be identified. I cannot find that the well had any association with a saint, but it is evident that it was regarded as being under Christian patronage from the fact of the cross on the stone and its contiguity to the sacred site of Inschadney.

#### STONE CIRCLE ON THE FARM OF ALECKICH (REMONY HILL).

In the *Proceedings* of this Society, vol. xliii. p. 271, there is a description of a stone circle situated in a wood above Remony on what was once the farm of Aleckich. I wish to supplement the information that is there given by my predecessor, Rev. J. B. MacKenzie, F.S.A.Scot., and by Mr J. D. Macleod, Edinburgh, who made a very accurate plan, which appears on p. 272.

I paid several visits last summer to this lonely and elevated spot, and examined the ground for stones, where the wide spaces between those indicated on the plan suggested that others might be concealed

beneath the turf. There would appear to be three stones missing, which would make the circle to consist of nine in all when it was entire. With little trouble, at a depth of only 3 inches, I located a large flat stone measuring 5 feet 6 inches by 4 feet 8 inches. It had stood on the north-western arc of the circle half-way between the fallen stone on the west and the broken standing stone on the north-north-west. It had fallen outwards. The foundation of the wall, built probably some seventy years ago to enclose the plantation, rested on the edge of the stone. The ground along the circumference of the circle between the three stones on the eastern side was carefully probed, but the rod touched only small loose stones.

I next turned up the centre of the circle, and at a depth of 5 inches below the surface came upon a dark deposit. It extended over a space of 2 feet square and was about 5 inches in depth. It was mixed with a white limy substance consisting of calcined bones, bits of which along with a sample of the dark substance I brought to the Museum. A bit of charcoal from the deposit revealed the lines of cleavage in the wood. There is no peat at the spot, although the elevation, which is at least 1200 feet, might suggest it. The surrounding soil is of a reddish colour, and quite unlike the deposit which must have been placed there, and which was probably a burial after cremation.

## II.

NOTES ON A CROSS-SLAB AT CLANAMACRIE AND DIARMAID'S  
PILLAR IN GLEN LONAIN, ARGYLL, AND ON A SCULPTURED  
STONE IN GLEN BUCKIE, PERTHSHIRE. By WILLIAM THOMSON,  
F.S.A. SCOT.

## CROSS-SLAB AT CLANAMACRIE.

The old road from Taynuilt to Oban lies for a considerable part through fair Glen Lonain. Seven miles west it winds between a jutting headland, on which the foundations of a hill-fort are visible, and the slopes of Cruach Clanamacrie. Immediately beyond this point the glen expands to a wide amphitheatre of grassy and tree-clad hills, encircling fertile meadows, where the river Lonan runs.

This is Cladh na Macraidh (the burial-place of the youths), a quietly beautiful, secluded vale, fit resting-place for the unknown dead, whose burial mounds break the level contour of the plain. On the crest of one stands the small but extremely interesting Clanamacrie Cross-slab, hitherto but cursorily examined, and holding till now the secret of the interlaced Celtic ornament adorning the cross-shaft and possibly other parts of its surface.

This is the only remaining wayside cross in Muckairn parish, Argyll. One other crowned a knoll—Tom na Croise (knoll of the cross)—in a field on the south side of the main road to Oban, about a quarter mile west of Taynuilt. It bears a rudely carved representation of the Crucifixion, and has for many years found a place in our National Museum of Antiquities. The style and character of these two crosses have nothing in common; they have no resemblance one to the other.

• Clanamacrie Cross-slab is situated close by the old public road referred to above, on a made-up mound of earth and stones, elliptical in shape, some 9 feet high, 180 feet in circumference, 71 feet from west to east, and 54 feet from north to south, measured over the rise. Parts of several large, rounded boulders, probably base stones of the cairn, are exposed on the south side, next the road.

The farm of the same name stands about 100 yards to the south-east, with the Lonan flowing beyond. Here the slab is said formerly to have been placed, in an ancient burying-ground now occupied by the farm-yard. From this it was carried to its present site by a young man named Macfadyen, a farm servant at the place. From the field on the opposite side of the river rise two other artificial knolls, one rather larger than

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that just described, the other smaller, and named respectively Cnoc an t-Sagairt (the knoll of the priest) and Cnoc an t-Seomair (the knoll of the chamber). All three are apparently burial cairns and do not seem to have been disturbed. Two hundred yards east of the cross mound are two standing stones, 3 feet 3 inches and 4 feet 6 inches high respectively, and 8 feet in girth. A third stone, fallen, lies half buried in the long grass beside the smaller and most western. The name the locality bears appears therefore to be amply justified.

In view of the way it was brought to its present position, the orienta-



Fig. 1. Cross-slab at Clanamacrie (front).



Fig. 2. Cross-slab at Clanamacrie (back).

tion of the slab is of no importance, but for the past fifty or sixty years it has faced due south. Inserted in a hole in the turf and wedged into an upright position, the stone has repeatedly fallen. It is a block of laminated, fine-grained freestone, varying from 10 inches at the base to 1 foot in width, and 6 inches thick. The length or height is 3 feet 1 inch.

The obverse (figs. 1 and 3) shows, from the base, a shaft 15 inches long by 4 inches broad, cut in relief, and bearing an incised pattern of interlaced work. The sloping sides or borders also seem to bear a repeating design. The lower end of this shaft is semicircular with the border fret continued round, and from here the interlaced motif springs. Above the shaft is a round boss carved in high relief, 1½ inch in height,

of floral design. From the central circle,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, spring twelve radiating petals or divisions curving down to the outer circumference. These are not of equal size, and on the rubbing (fig. 3) give the effect of vesicas. The diameter of this boss is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches over the curve, and its position above the shaft, and below the deeply cut Latin cross above it near the top of the slab, is very unusual.

In their pristine state the limbs of the cross have been cut to a depth of 1 inch; even now they are  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep. The rectangular edges have been worn and rounded, so that on the surface-level the width is 2 inches. But the square ends, still visible, prove that the shaft was 8 inches long and the arms 7 inches across, with a uniform original width of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch. Under the boss and between the shaft and outer edge of slab the rubbing yields a very strong suggestion of more ornamentation. Excessive weathering has seriously affected this beautiful relic.

Dr Angus Smith, in *Loch Etive and the Sons of Usnach* (p. 263), says: "The late Dr Charlton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to whom a drawing (of the cross) was shown, thought it of the eleventh century at the earliest." Since, however, the drawing in his book is extremely inaccurate—it dates from 1885—and Dr Smith was unaware of the ornament on the stone, this estimate falls to be revised.

The reverse side of the slab (fig. 2) bears a simple, deeply cut cross beginning 10 inches above the base. Here again weathering has widened, worn, and rounded the shaft and arms out of all proportion to their original dimensions. The depth (1 inch) and width ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch) are similar to the cross on the obverse, but the shaft is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and the arms 8 inches all over. There is no evidence of ornament on this side.

This monument is on the estate of Mr H. L. Macdonald, of Dunach, Oban.

#### DIARMAID'S PILLAR.

Westward from Clanmacrie the sides of the valley converge rapidly, and the way leads along a picturesque, narrow, wooded ravine, the river rushing swiftly alongside. Then, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile further on, the hills recede, the glen expands, and just beyond Strontoiller

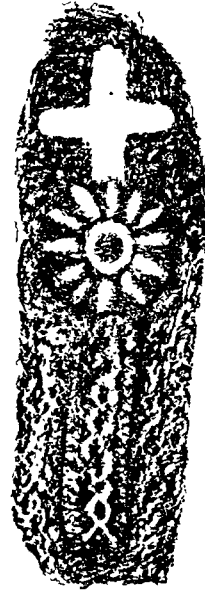


Fig. 3. Cross-slab at Clanmacrie, from a rubbing.



schoolhouse the splendid monolith known as Clach Dhiarmaid, or Carragh Dhiarmaid, that is Diarmaid's Pillar (fig. 4), comes in sight.

It sentinels the west end of Glen Lonain, and looks over the fields and meadows extending southward to Loch Nell,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile away. The rugged dignity of this mass of Durinish granite is very striking, and its height of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  feet and girth of over 13 feet add to its massive appearance. In plan irregularly rhomboidal, the four faces measure 4 feet, 3 feet 6 inches, 2 feet 10 inches, and 3 feet near ground-level, with a slight tapering towards the top. It has been thought by some

that the artificer has had a part in shaping the stone, but of this there are no indications.

Some 45 feet behind the pillar, to the east, is a roughly circular series of earthfast stones, thirteen in number, marking the reputed burial-place of the Fenian hero, Diarmaid. They are to be seen in the illustration to the right of the standing stone. Those to the south, next the road, are the largest. Two are 3 feet 6 inches long by 2 feet broad, and four rise from 15 inches to 2 feet 6 inches clear of the ground. The greatest diameter from stone to stone is 15 feet. They occur on a slightly elevated platform, sloping to the general level all round, but more sharply where



Fig. 4. Diarmaid's Pillar, Glen Lonain, Argyll.

the arc adjoins the road. Five stones project above earth-level, the others merely show through the turf. A shallow depression extends from the stones to Diarmaid's Pillar, round which the ground is again slightly raised. The boulders forming the circle are iceworn and smooth.

Diarmaid was the Achilles of Celtic legend, and the tale of his adventures is told at great length in Irish literature. Briefly, he won the heart of Grainne, daughter of Cormac Mac Airt, the king, judge, warrior, and philosopher who reigned at Tara, and who was the son of Conn of the hundred battles. With her he fled to Scotland, pursued by Fionn, her betrothed lover, who overtook them in the vicinity of the obelisk. A boar hunt was planned in the forests close by, and the quarry fell to Diarmaid's prowess at Torr an Tuirc, a little beyond the

bank of the Lonan. With subtle cunning Fionn begged the hero to measure the hide by treading over it, insisting that this should be done from tail to snout or against the bristles, one of which penetrated Diarmaid's heel and caused his death. They buried him where he fell, and "raised this rib of rock" to mark the spot.

Carragh Dhiarmaid is on Strontoiller Farm, which belongs to the M'Caig trustees.

#### SCULPTURED STONE, LEAC NAN SAIGHEAD.

Leac nan Saighead (the flat rock of the arrows, fig. 5), lies among the heather close by the old track from Balquhiddier through Gleann Mòin to Brig o' Turk, a natural route probably followed by man from the date of his first entry into these wilds.

The stone is remarkable, not for the elaboration of its markings, but for their characteristics, which appear to be well-nigh unique among cup- and ring-marked stones in Scotland. Distant from Bailemore Farm, Glen Buckie, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the west, it occurs at an elevation of 900 feet, on the surface of the immense field of glacial detritus which fills the glen, and through which the Allt Fànghlinne cuts a deep gorge some three hundred paces to the south.

Moss and heather had grown up and about and over the stone to a considerable extent when I first saw it; since then I have cleaned it carefully and dug away the mossy soil, to show the eastern (lower) end and the interesting outlet of the circular groove.

Leac nan Saighead is roughly rhomboidal in shape when viewed from the east. It is a mass of hard schistose rock, measuring at its greatest length from east to west 6 feet 4 inches, with a breadth of 5 feet 6 inches from north to south, varying slightly in parts. The magnetic north makes a line across the stone at right angles to its



Fig. 5. Sculptured Stone, Leac nan Saighead, Glen Buckie, Perthshire.

length. The east end varies in thickness from 8 inches to 12 inches, tapering to thin, sharp, broken edges at the western edge. The contour of the surface of the stone is well shown in the illustration.

Portions of two circles are graven on the surface. The inner of these has a radius of 2 feet 1 inch to the inner edge of the channel, which is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches broad. The circle is not quite perfect. The channel of this and the other circle is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. This circle, though not complete, shows a perimeter enclosing about 225 degrees or  $\frac{5}{8}$ ths of a circle.

Distant  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the outer edge of the channel of this inner circle is a portion of another, which at first glance seems concentric. But this is not so. The radius of the outer circle is 1 foot 11 inches to the inner edge of the sunk channel, and it is thus really smaller than the first, and only an arc of 45 degrees remains.

At the highest point of the main circle and close to the inner lip of the flat-bottomed channel, a narrow groove begins, and continues round, gradually deepening, until, close to the south side of the stone, it takes the place of the shallow channel, and eventually runs out, as the illustration shows, on the eastern edge. As it approaches the latter point, it reveals a clean-cut, perpendicular face on the inner side  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep from the rock-surface to the bottom of the groove. Its outer lip is 1 inch lower than the inner and its greatest width is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The arc is continued some distance further without this groove-like and very unusual feature. At the centre of the main circle is a small depression, and near it are traces of probable cup-marks, with one quite definite  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep.

The only tradition associated with the stone is, that the man who carved the circles was killed at the stone by an arrow discharged from Bealach a' Chonnaidh, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, as the crow flies, south-west across the gorge of the Allt Fànghlinne. In front of this bealach (pass) is a very prominent dun, which may have been the site of an ancient encampment. It is a strong position strategically, and commands the ford over the stream, used by all who travelled north or south, from or to Glean Mòin. The summit is covered with grass, but no remains of buildings of any kind are visible above the surface.

A new road has quite recently been made close by Leac nan Saighead, which was in some danger while the operations were in progress, and it was even suggested to raise it to a vertical position. Fortunately it was not interfered with.

## III.

EXCAVATION OF A CHAMBERED CAIRN AT HAM. CAITHNESS, AND OF A HUT-CIRCLE AND TWO EARTH-HOUSES AT FRESHWICK LINKS, CAITHNESS. OBTAINED UNDER THE GUNNING FELLOWSHIP. WITH A NOTE ON A WINGED HORSE CARVED ON ONE OF THE LINTELS IN THE EARTH-HOUSE AT CRICHTON MAINS, MIDLOTHIAN. BY ARTHUR J. H. EDWARDS, F.S.A. SCOT., ASSISTANT KEEPER OF THE MUSEUM.

## CHAMBERED CAIRN AT HAM.

In the county of Caithness only three earth-houses have hitherto been recorded—two in the parish of Latheron and one in the parish of Dunnet. The latter, which is situated near Ham at the edge of a cliff on the eastern side of a small geo, about 233 yards north of the farmhouse of Ham, is not an earth-house in the accepted sense of the word, but a chambered cairn rising from the natural surface of the ground to some 8 or 9 feet above the level of the adjacent field. The mound can be distinctly seen from the roadside, its presence being made still more prominent by reason of a modern cairn of stone which has been built on the top. The exact diameter cannot be ascertained, as there is no definite margin, but at one time it has probably measured somewhere about 100 feet.

The monument has long been known in the district as the Picts House, and in Pococke's *Tours*, p. 156, and the old *Statistical Account*, vol. xi. p. 257, reference is made to it under this name; but in both of these descriptions mention is made of the existence of two "cells" with separate entrances. If this is the same construction, only one "cell" or chamber is now extant, entrance to which is obtained through a covered passage. In the *Statistical Account* the entrances to the cells are also described as seemingly to have led from two outer circular compartments of about 17 or 18 feet in diameter. But, before the present excavation, the only indication of what might have corresponded to one of these compartments, was an oval grass-grown depression some little distance south of the extreme outer end of the entrance passage, whose broken and incomplete walls extended, before excavation, for a distance of 4 feet outwards from the point where the lintels begin and the covered passage leads from the face of the slope into the chamber in the heart of the mound. Taking a lead from the description given in the *Statistical Account*, an attempt to discover the existence of a second "cell" or

chamber was made by an excavation which commenced at a point 8 feet west of the opening of the covered passage, and extended for about 15 feet in a northerly direction (A on fig. 1). At the northern extremity

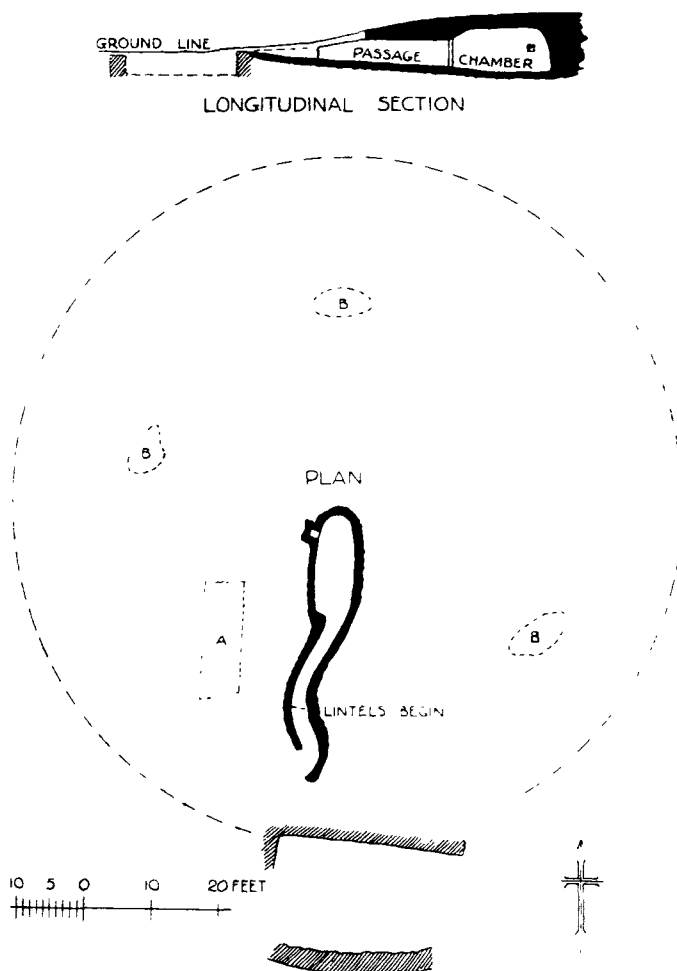


Fig. 1. Plan and Section of Chambered Cairn at Ham, Caithness.

of the excavation the depth from the surface of the mound to the bottom, which was considerably below the level of the roof of the present chamber, was about 5 feet. In so far as finding a second chamber the result was negative, and the second cell mentioned in the *Statistical Account*, and which Bishop Pococke described when he visited the site

in 1760, still remains a matter of obscurity. The excavation was not, however, without its value, for it was ascertained that the body of the mound, although supposed until now to be of earth, was really an agglomeration of boulders and slabs of stone with only a few inches of soil on the top. Without penetrating deeply into the mound, an examination was made at various other places (B on plan), and the evidence obtained showed that the structure was similar to that of a cairn.

The exact nature of the oval depression in front of the entrance to the passage had next to be determined, and on the removal of the turf from its extreme outer edge on the south side, a slightly curved wall was found running from east to west. The wall, which measured 23 feet in length and 3 feet in height, was faced only on its outer or southern side. The top of the wall was flat, and consisted of a series of thin slabs, 2 feet 6 inches in breadth, regularly laid for the whole of its length. The inner side, irregular and without form, gradually sloped down towards the centre of the depression in a mass of irregularly placed stones and pieces of rotten slab. The centre of the depression was also dug out, but no floor was found. At a distance of about 19 feet north from the face of the first wall, another wall was found which also ran east and west. This wall measured 26 feet in length and nearly 4 feet in height, and it also was faced only on its outer or southern side. Above the wall before excavation was a covering of fragments of slabs and stones mixed with soil, but when this was removed it was seen that, as in the first wall, the top was well defined by flat slabs, between 2 and 3 feet in breadth, which covered it from end to end. Behind this building was the mass of stones and boulders that formed the body of the mound, of which the wall appeared to be an integral part.

At the western end of the inner wall and on its southern side another portion of walling, 4 feet in length and faced only on its eastern or inner side, was set at right angles. Its termination was rough and irregular, and gave the impression that it had continued further. From near the angle formed by these two walls a cut was made inwards in nearly a direct line with the present opening of the covered passage, and at a distance of 8 feet from the outer face of the long wall, the eastern wall of the passage leading to the chamber was disclosed. This wall, of which it was evident only part remained, curved slightly to the right for a distance of 4 feet, and gradually increased in height from 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet. The end of the other wall of the passage was then laid bare, a distance of 2 feet separating one wall from the other. Both walls running parallel, curved slightly to the left, and the height gradually increased to 3 feet at the point where the lintels began

(fig. 1, Section). The passage now curved slightly to the right and extended inwards for a distance of 13 feet, the height gradually increasing until at the part where it opened into the chamber it had reached 3 feet 10 inches. The passage was not paved.

The chamber, which was of drystone building, measured 14 feet 9 inches in length, 4 feet 10 inches in width where the passage entered, and 3 feet 6 inches in width at the back, where the curve which forms the round commences. The walls converged slightly as they rose upwards, the roof being formed of flags of stone, two of which had fallen in, leaving an open space in the centre about 3 feet square. The total number of flags which had covered both passage and roof was 22 in all. Near the end of the west wall, 3 feet above floor-level, was a small recess, which measured 1 foot in height, 1 foot 3 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 6 inches in depth. In a crevice at the back of the recess, caused by the flat slab which formed its floor not having fitted closely, there were found a quantity of limpet-shells and a few large fish-bones, probably cod. The floor of the chamber was covered with a black earthy deposit, mixed with disintegrated limpet-shells and comminuted fish-bones, the limpet-shell deposit being found in much greater quantity near the entrance than at any other part. The floor was not paved, and a measurement taken from the centre of it to the roof showed that the height was 6 feet 6 inches.

It is matter for regret that even now, after excavation, one cannot say with absolute certainty that this was the monument referred to in the *Statistical Account* and in Pococke's *Tours*. The two faced walls and part of a third, found at the south side of the mound, may have formed one of the circular outer compartments mentioned in the first of these descriptions; but no published plan, however, seems to have been in existence prior to that given in the Ancient Monuments Commission's *Inventory of Monuments and Constructions in Caithness*, p. 23, where this particular part of the structure is described as an oval depression which measured 27 feet by 14 feet. The walls, covered as they were with turf and nettles, would certainly have justified one in the assumption of the previous existence of a circular or oval compartment, and not until the present excavation was made could it have been possible to believe otherwise. The plan (fig. 1) shows that the smaller portion of wall would appear as if it had at one time joined the other long wall at right angles, and although no faced wall was found on the eastern side of the hollow, which would have made of the whole a rectangular enclosure, I am inclined to believe that in any case this portion was of secondary construction. With reference to the main part of the monument, it has until now been supposed that the chamber was contained in an earthen

mound; but the composition of the body of the structure undoubtedly resembles that of a sepulchral cairn, and in a region notable for its number of chambered cairns, it is not without the bounds of possibility that one of these early monuments may have been adapted for use as a dwelling-place in later times. The chamber, although it does not now conform to the style of construction usually associated with the earlier type of monument, may have been rebuilt to suit the needs of those who afterwards used it as a habitation.

#### EXCAVATIONS AT FRESWICK LINKS.

Freswick Links, situated at the head of Freswick Bay, on the east coast of Caithness, in the parish of Canisbay, is one of these areas covered with deposits of sand blown up from the seashore, of which we have many examples round our Scottish coast. Unlike the Culbin Sands in Morayshire and the Glenluce Sands in Wigtownshire—two similar but much larger areas which for years have yielded a rich harvest of relics, dating from prehistoric to modern times—few objects have as yet been obtained from Freswick Links. Bounded on its south side by Freswick Burn and on its north side by the road which leads to Skirza Head, the area measures about half a mile from north to south and about a quarter of a mile from east to west at its widest part. From about the middle and towards its northern end large sandy hollows or gullies have been swept out by the wind, so that there is exposed to view at the bottom of these a dark layer of soil or old land surface. Here and there in the gullies large boulders, some completely exposed, are scattered over the surface, while portions of others protrude from underneath. One feature worthy of note is the quantity of burnt stones, nearly all of which have been fractured by intense heat, many having been reduced almost to the size of road metal. At various places also, and perhaps more particularly near the spot called the Lady's Brow, are the remains of kitchen-middens composed mainly of limpet-shells and fish-bones.

In a gully about 600 yards north of Freswick House a single pillar-like stone protruded some 3 feet above the level of the ground, while in close proximity and with some appearance of regularity in the form of their setting, the upper portions of other smaller stones just appeared above the surface. As the seaward side of the gully, where it sloped towards the beach, was covered with a quantity of kitchen-midden debris, I decided that the site might be worth investigation. Excavation exposed to view an oval-shaped construction composed of single boulders resting on pure sand (fig. 2), which measured 17 feet in greatest length and 13 feet in greatest breadth. This had probably been a



hut-circle. A gap of 3 feet 9 inches on the south-west side of the enclosure formed the entrance, a pillar-like stone, which measured 4 feet in height, 1 foot 2 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 2 inches in thickness, standing upright at the eastern side of the gap being one of the portals of the doorway, and single boulders, the average measurement of which would be about 2 feet by 1 foot 6 inches by 2 feet, being part of the inner face of the surrounding wall. When the interior was cleared of loose sand, it was observed that one part of the floor on the north-east side was paved, and although there was no kerb, this portion may have been used as a hearth or fireplace, strength being lent to this supposition by the discoloured sand mixed with fragments of charcoal found near by.

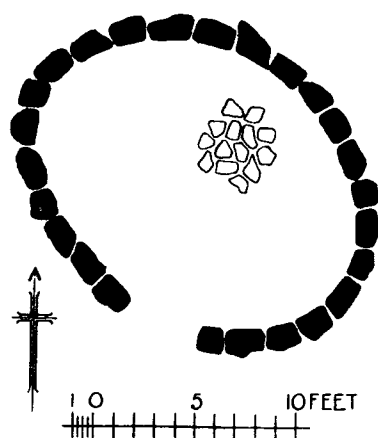


Fig. 2. Plan of Hut-circle at Freswick Links, Caithness.

The remainder of the floor was covered with a layer of clay some inches thick, in which were embedded limpet-shells in fairly large quantities, and in one particular place a number of shells of the common whelk. The only relic found was a grooved sinkstone of indurated sandstone, which measured  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches in length and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in thickness.

A little to the north of the Lady's Brow the wind had blown away the sand, leaving a gully nearly 100 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, and from 3 feet to 9 feet in depth. The floor of this gully rose gently from either side to its centre in the form of a low mound 21 feet in width, which extended inwards from the beach end for a distance of nearly 60 feet. On the north side of this mound a few scattered boulders protruded above the surface, while at its western extremity, entirely exposed to view, were broken portions of the upper halves of two circular querns, one of which had been in the process of manufacture. Near the southern margin of the mound, about its centre, was a bed of limpet-shells about 7 feet in length, 3 feet in breadth, and 1 foot in depth, while still closer to the edge was a large quantity of burnt stones, the depth of which at one point was ascertained to be 4 feet. The area occupied by the burnt stones could not be determined, as the mass continued under the bank which formed the southern side of the gully. Near the western extremity of the mound, and at a distance of about 200 feet from high-water mark, the top of a wall built of rough boulders was found at about 1 foot below the surface. The wall was carefully followed until the

outlines of a building took definite shape, and the interior was cleared of the discoloured sand and loose stones which completely filled it. The structure (fig. 3, A), which was evidently an earth-house, was roofless. It lay nearly east and west, the total length measuring 10 feet 9 inches internally. The building consisted of two chambers with an entrance passage. The walls, which were dry built, had a thickness of about 1 foot 6 inches, and consisted of rough boulders and slabs, entrance having been obtained from the south-east by a short passage, 2 feet 3 inches in length, 1 foot 9 inches in height, and 1 foot 6 inches in width, the floor of which was paved. The inner end of this passage opened into an oval compartment which measured 4 feet 9 inches from front to back by 7 feet in greatest width; the walls were 3 feet 2 inches in height. Separated from this compartment by two small upright slabs

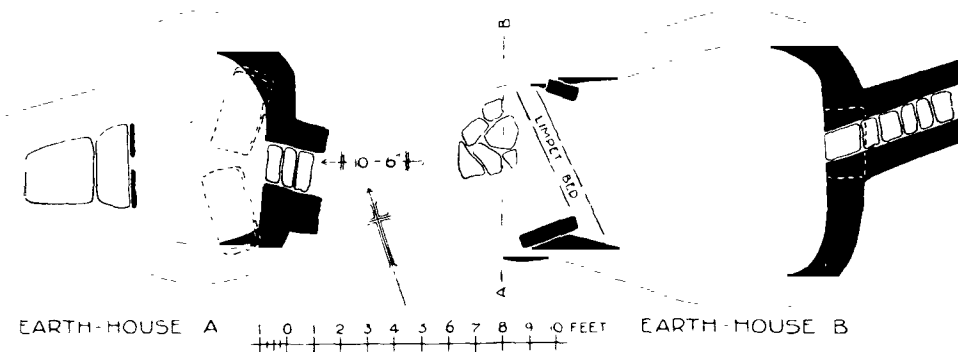


Fig. 3. Plan of Earth-houses at Freswick Links, Caithness.

set in the floor, each of which measured 7 inches in height, and 1 foot 5 inches and 1 foot 3 inches in length respectively, was another small chamber, trapezoidal in shape, the floor paved with two flat slabs, which exactly fitted into position. This chamber measured 4 feet in length, 2 feet in width at its narrow end, and 3 feet 3 inches at its wider end, with walls 2 feet 9 inches in height. Two large flags, which may have formed part of the original roof of the structure, were found in the circular compartment near the inner end of the passage, one on either side. The upper portion of the flags rested against the inner edge of the topmost course of the wall, while their bases, which nearly touched, rested on the floor. That on the south side measured 4 feet in length, 1 foot 5 inches in breadth, and 4 inches in thickness, the measurement of the other on the north side being 3 feet 8 inches in length, 1 foot 5 inches in breadth, and 3 inches in thickness.

In an easterly direction and at a distance of 10 feet 6 inches from the

entrance to earth-house A, the wall of another earth-house, B (fig. 3), was found. This earth-house, the median line of which lay nearly east and west, measured 18 feet 9 inches in total length, and resembled the previous one, in respect that it also contained two compartments although of somewhat different shape, one being semicircular and the other sub-oval. Facing nearly due east was a paved passage, which measured 5 feet in length, 1 foot 2 inches in width, and 1 foot 2 inches in height. At its inner end and built in the thickness of the wall of the larger chamber was a lintel stone, which measured 2 feet 7 inches in length, 1 foot 5 inches in breadth, and 7 inches in thickness. Entrance to the chamber must necessarily have been made with some difficulty, as the underside of the lintel was only 1 foot 2 inches above the floor-level.

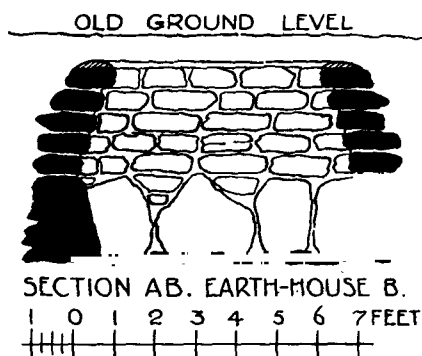


Fig. 4. Section of Earth-house at Freswick Links, Caithness.

The passage was completely filled with dark soil mixed with quantities of limpet-shells, the whole so impacted that it was only removed with difficulty. The chamber, which was sub-oval in shape, measured 9 feet 3 inches in length, and the stones which formed the dry-built walls were set in such a manner that they showed a fairly smooth and regular interior face. At the eastern end the height of the walls was 2 feet 6 inches and the width of the chamber 8 feet 3 inches; near the centre the height was 2 feet 9 inches and the width 8 feet; and at the western end, or entrance to the other compartment where the walls had converged until the distance which separated them was only 5 feet 6 inches, the height was 3 feet. The line of demarcation between one compartment and the other was made by two large slabs set upright, one on either side of the entrance to the inner compartment; that on the north side measured 2 feet 9 inches in height, 1 foot 2 inches in breadth, and 7 inches in thickness, and the other on the south side, 3 feet 3 inches in height, 2 feet 3 inches in breadth, and 6 inches in thickness. The compartment itself was semicircular in shape and built of rough boulders and stones, the height of the walls being 4 feet 6 inches. At the floor-level it measured 5 feet 6 inches in width, but at the head of the first course, which consisted of boulders placed in such a manner that their inner faces were tilted out at an angle of over 100° with the floor, the width increased to 6 feet 9 inches (fig. 4). On top of these boulders were several courses of rough stones, each of these courses protruding inwards

a little from the one below, until at the top the walls had converged to a width of 5 feet. A peculiar feature was the fact that the highest course had been covered with a layer of clay of convex shape on the upper surface, showing a thickness of 3 inches at its centre. The clay when first uncovered was quite soft and pliable, but after a few days' exposure to the sun it had become as hard as brick.

Part of the floor of the compartment was roughly paved, and near the entrance was a bed of limpet-shells, about 1 foot in breadth and from 4 inches to 8 inches in depth, a portion of which extended into the larger chamber. Amongst the shells at the north end of the deposit were found the lower jaw of a child in its first dentition, before eruption of the permanent molars, and 1 foot further south in the same deposit, another part of the skull in a fragmentary condition.

Except for a saddle quern and rubber found at the floor-level in the large compartment, a few feet from where the passage entered, no relics were found. The quern measured 1 foot  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, 13 inches in breadth, and 5 inches in thickness. The rubber was  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, 7 inches in breadth, and 2 inches in thickness.

With regard to the actual excavation of this earth-house, the larger chamber presented no difficulty, except for the great quantity of sand which had to be removed; but the excavation of the smaller chamber was rendered more difficult, by reason of the mass of burnt stones mixed with dark soil with which it was almost completely filled. The boulders which formed the lower course were blackened with fire, and still had adhering to their surfaces a sooty deposit which blackened the fingers.

Both earth-houses are new in type, and it is unfortunate that no relics were obtained, so that the period to which they had belonged could have been more or less definitely ascertained. That they are early is without doubt, as the saddle quern is associated with the prehistoric remains of nearly every country in Europe. A comparison between the relics found at Freswick and those from the earth-house excavated at Galson<sup>1</sup> in Lewis last year shows some striking differences. At Freswick the people seemed to have lived mainly by the harvest of the sea. They possessed only a limited supply of pottery, as none was found in the interior of the dwellings, and a search made of the kitchen-middens yielded only a few shards of rough, hard, undecorated ware. At Galson, in addition to limpet-shells and fish remains, large quantities of the bones of various animals, shards of pottery, decorated and undecorated, and implements of bone and deer-horn, were found inside the chambers of the earth-house and in the kitchen-midden.

Relics recovered from the vicinity of the kitchen-middens consisted

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. pp. 185 *et seq.*

of a hollow scraper of flint, which measured  $1\frac{1}{3}\frac{5}{2}$  inch in length by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in breadth, a whorl made from the head of a femur or humerus of an animal, and a pointed splinter of bone which showed cut marks. Very few fragments of pottery were recovered, one small shard being of the broch type, with everted lip and bulging sides, and the remainder, pieces of vessels of a rough undecorated ware, the sides of which had been nearly straight and the lips flat or partially rounded, somewhat similar to certain of the unornamented fragments found in the kitchen-midden at Galson.

I am indebted to Messrs John C. Brodie & Sons, W.S., who very kindly obtained for the Society the necessary authority to examine the cairn at Ham, and to Lady Alexander-Sinclair, who, in the absence of Vice-Admiral Sir Edwyn Alexander-Sinclair, readily gave permission to excavate any sites at Freswick Links.

#### A WINGED HORSE CARVED ON A LINTEL STONE IN THE EARTH-HOUSE AT CRICHTON MAINS.

In the earth-house at Crichton Mains, Midlothian,<sup>1</sup> it has long been known that the walls contained a number of squared and chiselled stones with the diagonal and diamond markings so frequently seen in Roman buildings, but it has now been possible to add to this record by the discovery of a carving on one of the lintel stones.

In the long chamber of the earth-house to the east, about 27 feet from the inner end of the entrance passage, and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the northern wall, on the third lintel from the end of the chamber, there is carved in high relief the figure of a Pegasus or winged horse, showing head, shoulders, forelegs, and wings (fig. 5). The wings are raised as if in the motion of flight and the legs outstretched as if galloping. There is no trace of the body or hind legs, and it is impossible to say if ever the figure had been complete. Over all, from the tip of the wings to the forefeet, the carving measures about 7 inches, and from the poll of the head to the belly about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Individually the head measures  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, the legs 2 inches in length, the wings 3 inches in length by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches across, and the neck from the poll of the head to the base of the wings, as nearly as can be ascertained,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The surface of the lintel is roughly picked, but that portion on which the figure is cut is more finely tooled. Whether the carving was done before the stone was put to its present use, or worked on it as now placed, is a matter of opinion. But, as it certainly would not have been easy to

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. viii. p. 105.

cut the design on the stone as it now lies, it is more probable that the sculpturing had been done previous y.



Fig. 5. Winged Horse sculptured on Lintel in Earth-house at Crichton.

I have to thank Mr Bryan Clayton, F.S.A.Scot., for his flash-light photograph of the stone from which the illustration has been made.

## IV.

NOTES ON FIVE DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE LANDS OF  
FEOROULE IN ROXBURGHSHIRE, DATING FROM 1453 TO 1542.  
BY WILLIAM DOUGLAS, F.S.A.Scot.

Five old documents, which illustrate the ancient procedure of land conveyancing, as well as being of some topographical interest, have lately come into my hands among a number of charters relating to the extinct barony of Cleish. The first, a Letter of Reversion of the lands of Feoroule, written in the vernacular, is dated 1453, and has the grantor's seal attached. It is granted by Andrew Ker of Altonburn to Sir Robert Colville of Oxnam.

This Andrew Ker, the second of the name, was afterwards known as Andrew Ker of Cessford, and was an ancestor of the Dukes of Roxburgh.

Sir Robert Colville, to whom the letter was granted, was an ancestor of the Lords Colville of Culross.

The name Feoroule, in any of its many ways of spelling,<sup>1</sup> does not appear on our modern maps, but, according to Mr Tancred of Weens, there was an ancient barony of Feoroule which covered almost the whole breadth of Hobkirk parish, and included the lands of Town o' Rule, Hallrule, Harwood, Weens, and others lying round the Water of Rule. It is frequently alluded to in his book *Rulewater and its People*, but none of his references date so far back as 1453.

In this Letter of Reversion Andrew Ker relates that he obliges himself and his heirs of line or of tailzie, in the faith and truth of their bodies, that whenever the said Sir Robert or his successors shall warn him or them, upon forty days' notice, to come to the high altar of Jedworth Abbey to receive 200 marks of good and usual money of the kynryk of Scotland, he binds himself and his successors to come and receive the same, and to resign the lands of Feoroule into the hands of Sir Robert and his successors. To this he gives his bodily oath touching the holy evangel.

According to the *Scots Peerage*,<sup>2</sup> this Andrew Ker had much in common with Sir Robert Colville. In 1453 he entered into a mutual bond of manrent with Sir Robert against all others, the King and the

<sup>1</sup> Feoroule being the oldest form known to me, I have adopted it for this paper. The other forms are Feu of Roule, Fewtoule, Farroule, Feorowle, Fewroulie, Feuallroul, Fewreull, Fewrele, Fewrouell, and Ferrowle.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. vii. p. 322, and vol. ii. p. 541.

Earl of Douglas excepted, and in 1454 he received a similar bond from Thom Robson in exchange for a grant to the said Thom of his lands of Hownam for life. This Thom Robson appears as one of the witnesses to the Letter of Reversion.

In the spring of last year I visited the places named in these documents.

Altonburn, the ancient home of the Kers, which was in their possession since 1357,<sup>1</sup> has entirely disappeared, and a thriving farm now occupies its site. This farm, named Attonburn, lies some 4 miles above Yetholm on the Bowmont Water, with the ancient unenclosed burial-ground of Mow not far off. The few remaining tombstones in this cemetery are slowly being overgrown and are gradually sinking out of sight.

Cessford Castle still shows some evidence of its previous glory, and its ruins now stand grim, sombre, and massive on the farm lands of the same name. They are in a terribly neglected state, and although the walls are more than 13 feet in thickness and look as if they had been built to withstand the rage of men and gods for all time, yet the great south wall has now been rent in twain, and the interior, unroofed, is the nesting home for pigeons and wild birds.

From the fact that Andrew Ker calls Cessford "my manor place," we may take it that the castle had not then been built. Fourteen years later (1467) a sasine<sup>2</sup> is given at the gates of the castle, so probably it was erected between these two dates.

The site of Oxnam Castle, the home of the Colvilles since the middle of the twelfth century, is still pointed out, but nothing now is left except its grass-covered foundations. These rest on the summit of a grassy knoll rising steeply from the Oxnam Water, which flows round its base and which formed one of its defences. It is approached by a little pathway descending through fields and hedgerows from the present church of Oxnam. According to the *New Statistical Account*, a strong wall on the land side enclosed a spacious outer court, where in times of trouble the cattle of the vicinity could be secured.

In 1479 Margaret Ker renounces all right or claim she may have to succeed to her father or to her grandfather Andrew Ker, to the barony of Cessford, in favour of her uncle Walter Ker of Caverston, and in the lands thus resigned it is interesting to note that the "Feu of Roule" has a place among them.<sup>3</sup>

In 1495 Feoroule was granted by King James IV. to Jonet, daughter of Archibald, Earl of Angus.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Scots Peerage*, vol. vii. p. 316.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Roxburgh*, p. 17.

<sup>4</sup> *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, 22nd December 1495.





The second and third documents are Notarial copies of an Instrument of Resignation, dated 1499, by which Sir William Colville of Oxnam (a grandson of Sir Robert) resigns into the hands of William Douglas of Cavers, as lord superior, half the lands of Feoroule, in favour of Andrew Ker of Over Crailing; and of charter following, dated 1500, in which William Douglas grants these lands to the said Andrew.

The fourth document is a grant, dated 1541, by Elizabeth Colville (great-granddaughter of Sir Robert and daughter of the Sir William Colville mentioned above), with consent of Patrick Colquhoun of Pemont, her spouse, giving to her son-in-law, Robert Colville<sup>1</sup> of Cleish, the Reversion of the lands of Feoroule. This grant is written in the vernacular, and has the seals of Elizabeth and Patrick Colquhoun attached. It is given for the special love and favour she bears to the said Robert, her gude-son.

The fifth is a Crown letter, given under the Privy Seal of James V., of date 15th April 1542, which retells the whole story, and ordains that when the redemption money is paid, Elizabeth, Lady Pemont, is to have free regress and ingress again to the lands of Feoroule.

In 1574 the lordship of Feoroule (Fewroulie) was in the hands of the king "throw the proces and dome of forfaltour ordourlie led and deducit aganis Thomas Ker, sumtyme of Phairnyhirst, knight, for certane crymes of tressoun committed by him."<sup>2</sup>

What happened to the lands after that I do not know, but from the Letter of Reversion, being still among the Colville of Cleish papers, it would seem that the right of redemption had not been exercised.

I am indebted to my friend Mr John M'Gregor, W.S., for much assistance in making the following transcripts and translations.

I.—1453 June 10. LETTER OF REVERSION granted by ANDREW KER of Altonburn to Sir ROBERT COLVILLE laird of Oxnam for redemption of Feoroule.

Be it kennyt til al men be thir present lettres me Andro Ker of the Altonburn to be oblist and be thir my present lettres oblissis me and myne ayeris and successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thair assignys in the fathys and throuthes of our bodyise with out fraude or gyle til ane honorabill man Sir Robt Colvele lord of Oxnam his ayeris and successouris of lyne or of talze his or thar assignys that quhat tyme it sal happyn the sayd Sir Robt his ayeris and successouris of lyne or of

<sup>1</sup> Robert Colville was a natural son of Sir James Colville of East Wemyss. He rose to high power in the service of Regent Moray, and died attacking the French at the siege of Leith in 1560. He was the ancestor of the Lords Colville of Ochiltree, a title now extinct.

<sup>2</sup> *Reg. Privy Council*, vol. ii. p. 384.

talze his or thar assignys to warn or ger warn me the sayde Andro Ker myne ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thar assignys at my man<sup>r</sup> place of Cessward or in ony uthir place quhar myne or thair chef dwellyng is in the tyme of the sayd warnyng or in ony uther place with in the realme of Scotland quhar I or thai forsaide may be bodely fundyn, but fraude or gyle upon fourty dayes warnyng to cum and to ressaiffe tua hundreth markis of gude and usuale mone of the kynryk of Scotlande and gyff our the landis of the Feoroule with the pertinents To the quhilk I the sayd Andro oblyssis me myne ayeris and successouris of lyne or of talze that we sal comper at the sayde daye in the abbaye of Jedworth and ressaiffe the sayde somme of mone on the he altar of that ilk, gyff thai will deliver it with out fors or strentht in hindering of us, but fraude or gyle, than and incontenent efter the ressavynge of the saide somme of mone, I the saide Andro myne ayeris and successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thair assignys sal upgyff purly and sympliter resyn with staff and baston the said landis of the Fewroule with the pertinents in the handis of the sayd Sir Robt his ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze hys or thair assignys al ryth and clame, charter and evident togyddyr with fee properte and possession fra me and myne ayeris forsayde to the sayd Sir Robt hys ayeris and successouris of lyne or of talze his or yair assignys in fre fee and heritage for evirmar Sua that nouthir I myne ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thair assignys na nane utheris in my name sal be herd in tyme to cum in na clame questione nor demand in na to the sayd landis na in na part of thaim bot al uttirly excludit for evirmayr And gyff it happynys me the sayd Andro or myne ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thair assignys wylfully or fraudfully to absent us and will nouch cum to the sayd daye off warnyng to ressiff the sayde somme of mone as is foirsayd the sayde Sir Robt or his ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze hys or thair assignys lefand the sayd soume of mone behynde thaim upon the he altar in the sayde abbay befor notar and wittnes but fraude or gyle than and frathyn furth it sall be leful to the sayde Sir Robt his ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze his or thair assignys to resaffe and resayse the sayde landis of the Feoroule with all thar pertinents as is contenyt in the charter of the sayde Andrew Ker at thair awyn handis in fre fee and heritage for evirmar with out ony obstakyll questione or demand lik as or be me the sayd And<sup>o</sup> myne ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talzie myne or thair assignys and her attour gyf it happins me the sayd And<sup>o</sup> myne ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze myne or thair assignys to pass of the realme of Scotland nouch lefand assignys ane or ma behynd us with full powar to resaffe the sayde somme of mone and gyf our the sayde landis of the Feoroule

with the pertinents in maner and fourme as is befor sayd than it sal be leffull to the sayde Sir Robt his ayeris or successouris of lyne or of talze his or thair assignys to resaffe the sayd landis of the Feorule with the



Fig. 1. Seal of Andrew Ker.

pertinents and to resayse as is befor sayde at thir awyn handis in fee and heritage for evirmar the forsayd somme of mone beand left upon the he altar of the sayd abbay befor notar wittness as is forsayd be the sayde Sir Robt his ayeris or successouris forsaide and at all the conditiounis artikyll and poyntmentis lely and treuly sal be kepit in all maner fourme and effect as is befor wryttyn I the sayd Andrew Ker for me and myn ayeris forsayde haly evangell tuchyt has gyffyn a bodelikacht And to the mar sekyrte to this my present lettres of reversione has hungyn my sele in the toune of Jedworth the tend daye of the moneth of June the yher of god a thousande four hundreth fyfty and thre yheris befor thir wittnes John of Aynisle of Dolphynston, Maister Philip [torn] Gilbert Elwald, Thom Robson, Sir Patk. of Fotheringham priest and public notary and many uthirs.

I have been permitted to compare this seal with one attached to a Procuratory of Resignation of 18th February 1480 which is much more clearly defined. The chevron carries three mullets and the helmet above the shield bears a stag's head. The legend is S. ANDRE KAR [or Car?].

II.—1499 Dec. 24. INSTRUMENT OF RESIGNATION by WILLIAM COLVILLE of Oxnam, of the half lands of Feoroule, in favour of ANDREW KER of Over Crailing.—A notarial copy on paper.

[Translation.]

In the name of God, amen. By this present public Instrument, be it manifest and known, that in the year of the incarnation of our Lord

one thousand four hundred and ninty nine years, the month of December and day twenty fourth, In the third Indiction, In the eighth year of the pontificate of the most holy father in Christ and our Lord, lord Alexander the sixth by divine providence the Pope. In presence of me Notary public and witnesses underwritten, personally compeared an honourable man William Colville of Oxname knight, who by staff and baton gave up all and sundry his lands of the half part lands of Fewtoule with tenants, tenandries and service of free tenants of the foresaid half part lands with pertinents lying within the barony of Cavers and sheriffdom of Roxburgh, into the hands of an honourable man William Douglas laird of the barony of Cavers knight, as the lord superior thereof, and purely and simply resigned all right and claim in property and possession which he had or might have in any way in future in the foresaid lands with tenants tenandries and service of free tenants with pertinents, for himself his heirs and assignees to William Douglas laird of the barony of Cavers knight, and quitclaims for ever, for the infetting of the honest man Andrew Ker of Ovir Crealing heritably in the same. Upon all and sundry the foresaid William Douglas laird of the barony of Cavers knight, asked of me the Notary public underwritten, public Instruments. These things were done in the Cathedral church of Jedworth, the tenth hour before noon, under year, month, day, Indiction & pontificate as above. Present there these honest men William Cranstoune of that ilk, William Ker of Langle, Randolph Ker, and William Cranstoune with divers other witnesses to the premises called & likewise required.

The Notary being Patrick Atzensone, M.A., and clerk of the diocese of Glasgow, and he gives the usual notarial docquet.

III.—1500 May 26. CHARTER by Sir WILLIAM DOUGLAS of Cavers, in favour of ANDREW KER of Over Crailing, of the half part of the lands of Feoroule. A notarial copy, on paper, made by PATRICK ATZENSONE, Notary.

[*Translation.*]

To all who shall see this charter, William Douglas laird of the barony of Cavers knight and sheriff of Roxburgh, Greeting in God everlasting. Know that I have given, granted and by this my present charter confirmed, as I by this my present charter give, grant and confirm to an honest man Andree Ker of Uvir Crailing all and sundry the land of the half part lands of Fewruele with tenants, tenandries and service of free tenants of the foresaid half part lands with pertinents,



lying within the barony of Cavers and sheriffdom of Roxburghe. Which lands with tenants tenandries and service of free tenants belonged heritably to an honourable man William Colvile of Oxname knight and which he the said William neither led by force nor fear nor falling into error, but of his own free and spontaneous will personally resigned into my hands at the church of Jedworth and by staff and baton upgave and purely and simply resigned all claim of right of property and possession which he had or might have in any way in future in the said lands with tenants tenandries and service of free tenants with pertinents and quit claims same for himself his heirs and assignees for ever for infefting the said Andrew heritably in the same. To have and to be held, all and sundry the foresaid land of the foresaid half part lands of Fewrouell with tenants tenandries and service of free tenants with pertinents, by the foresaid Andrew Ker and his heirs, of me and my heirs in fee and heritage for ever, by ward and relief throughout all their right marches old and divided as they lie in length and breadth in houses buildings woods plains moors marshs ways groves ponds rivers parks meadows young woods & timber, with hawkings huntings fishings peats turfs coal & coalheughs and stone & lime quarries, rabbits and warrens, pigeons & dovecots smithies breweries & brewhouses mills multures and their sequels with courts and their fines herezalds and merchets of women with common pasturage and free entry and exit and with all other and sundry liberties commodities profits easements and their just pertinents whatsoever as well not named as named as well under the earth as above the earth, far and near belonging to the foresaid lands with pertinents with tenants tenandries and service of free tenants, or which in any manner of way may justly belong to them in future, freely quietly fully wholly well and in peace. Paying therefor annually the said Andrew Ker & his heirs the annual suits at the courts of the foresaid barony of Cavers, Reserving to me and my heirs the marriage of the heirs of the said Andrew Ker in place of all other exactions secular service or demands which could in any way be exacted or required for the half part lands with pertinents tenants tenandries and service of free tenants. In witness hereof my seal is appended to this my present charter At Jedworth the 26th day of May 1500 before these witnesses George Douglas and Sir Walter Douglas vicar of Hassenden my uncles and Archibald Douglas.

Copy certified by Patrick Atzensone, Notary public.

IV.—1541 May 13. LETTER OF GIFT by ELIZABETH COLVILLE, wife of Sir PATRICK COLQUHOUN of Pemont, to their son-in-law ROBERT COLVILLE of Cleish, of the Reversion of Feoroule.

Be it kend to all men be thir present lettres Me, Elizabeth Colvile lady Pemonth air and successor of umqle Robert Colvile of Oxnem with avis and consent of Patrik Culquhone of Pemonth now my spous for his interes To have maid constitute and ordinit and be thir present lettres makis constitutis and ordinis my welbelovit gude-sonne Robert Colvile of Clesche and his airis my verray lauchfull undoutit & irrevocable cessionaris and assignais in and to ane lettir of reversioun maid to the said umqle Robert his airis and assignais or successoris of lyne or taillie be umqle Andro Ker of Altounburn for him his airis and assignais upoun the redemptioun and outquiting fra him or thame of all and hale the landis of Farroule with the pertinentis liand within the Shirefdome of Roxbur<sup>t</sup> for the soun of twa hundreth markis usuale money of Scotland as at mair lenth is contenit in the said reversion. And als in and to the redemptioun of the saidis landis with the pertinentis with all richt tittill interes and clame of ryt quhilkis I my airis or assignais had hes or ony wiss may clame or have thairto be virtew of the said reversioun Gevand grantand and transferrand fra me my airis executouris and all utheris my assignais the said lettir of reversioun and all richt titill interes privilege and clame of richt that I or thai hes or ony wiss may clame or have thir throw to the redemptioun of the saidis landis in maner aboune writtin In and to the said Robert and his airis my anerlie cessionaris and assignais foirsaidis to be brukit joisit and usit be thame siclike and als frelie in all thingis as I my<sup>t</sup> have usit the samin myself befoir the making of this my assignatioun but ony revocatioun of me or my airis or ony utheris in myne or thir names or be myne or thir richtis be any maner of way in tyme cuming And I forsuth and my airis sall warrand acquiet and defend to the said Robert and his airis the said lettir of reversioun hale in the self uncancellat undefesit or dischargeit in ony wiss to the redemptioun of the saidis landis for the soun abouewrittin And in signne and takin of this my assignatioun I have deliverit the said letter of reversioun to the said Robert to be usit be him and his airis to the effect above writtin And that for the speciale lufe and favoris that I have and beir to the said Robert my gude-sonne and for certane utheris gratitudis and pless<sup>ris</sup> done be him to me thir fore In witnes of the quilk thing to thir my lettres of assignatioun subscrivit with my hand my sele is hungin togiddir with the sele and subscription of my said spous in signe of his consente to the premissis At Clech the xiii day of

May. The zeir of god ane thousand five hundreth ffourtyane zeris  
Befoir thir witnes James Kynloch Morass Englas, Donkane Donkane  
with uthirs dyweris

ELAZABHT COLLWELL lade pemont with my hand  
PATREK COWQUHOWNE off Pemont



Figs. 2 and 3. Seals of Elizabeth and Patrick Colquhoun of Pemont.

V.—1542 April 15. LETTERS OF REGRESS to ELIZABETH COLVILLE to  
the lands of Feoroule.

[*Translation.*]

James [the 5<sup>th</sup>] by the grace of God king of Scots. To all his good  
men to whom these present letters may come Greeting. Know ye that  
although the deceased Robert Colvile of Oxnem sold and heritably  
alienated by charter and sasine All and whole the lands of Feorowle  
with pertinents lying within our Sherifffdom of Roxburgh to the deceased  
Andrew Ker of Altounburn. To be held of us and our successors. And  
upon the said alienation the said deceased Andrew gave and delivered  
to the foresaid deceased Robert a letter of reversion, with a certain  
sum of money mentioned therein, as the said letter more fully purports.

Nevertheless we, for good and faithful & grateful service rendered to us by Elizabeth Colville Lady Pemont, heir and successor of the said deceased Robert, ordain and promise for us and our successors to the said Elizabeth and her heirs and assignees, whensoever the sum contained in the said reversion shall be fully and completely paid to the heirs and successors of the deceased Andrew heritable possessors for the time being of the foresaid lands of Feorowle, and the terms of the reversion in all its points are fully and completely fulfilled and kept according to the tenor of the same. The foresaid Elizabeth or her heirs and assignees shall have full and free regress and ingress again to the said lands of Feorowle with pertinents. And we now as then and then as now, receive, admit, ratify and approve the said Elizabeth her heirs and assignees as heritable tenants to us in the same as freely to be holden in future as the deceased Robert held of our predecessors before the said alienation was made, without any impediment prejudice forfeiture or escheat loss or risk whatsoever to the said Elizabeth her heirs and assignees whomsoever in future. Given under our Secret Seal. At Stirling [Striveling] 15 April A.D. 1542 and of our reign 29.

## V.

BATTLE SITE IN GORTEN BAY, KENTRA, ARDNAMURCHAN.  
BY THOMAS C. LETHBRIDGE.

The sandy bays between Gortenfern and Sgeir a Chaolais are held by the crofters of Kentra, Acharacle, etc., to be the traditional sites of at least two battles. One of these battles, which is referred to in this note, is variously described as "between Scandinavians and Scots," or "Och, it was about the time of the Danes"; the other was much later.

The bay known as Cul na Croise (not shown by name on the 1-inch map), between Sgeir a Chaolais and Sgeir nam Meann, is ideal for beaching a long ship or landing from ships' boats, and is certainly the best site for this purpose from Ardnamurchan Point to Kyle Akin—that is, from Skye to Mull. Ships can also be watered from a good burn in this bay. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that this spot has been the site of more than one bloody encounter.

Sandy Cameron of Gortenfern, whose ancestors have lived for generations in the same spot, remembers being told by his father as a boy that the "Red Rover" had fought a battle there (Cul na Croise), and



that an Irishman named Duing or Dewing ("The Brown") had fought nearby. Cameron had spent much time himself searching amongst the sand-dunes in the bay, and he showed me a silver penny of Edward I. minted at London, and a fine eight-spoked bronze brooch (fig. 1), mediæval in form and possibly fourteenth century. Cameron also had various copper coins, buckles, buttons, and other relics of a much more recent date.

Various other objects have been found from time to time in Cul na Croise with the shifting of the sand (no other bay of the series has yielded relics). Here the sand-dunes have, in recent times, encroached on older dunes upon which vegetation had gained a firm hold. The ancient surface, on which the remains occur, consists of dark peaty soil with rootlets and remains of small trees; this surface is here and there exposed among the dunes at a height of from 35 to 40 feet above sea-level. The best find of recent times was made by John Cameron of Acharracle, now a man of ninety, who, landing one stormy evening after fishing, found on a space cleared of sand by the wind four or five daggers, two or three spears, one still with traces of its wooden shaft, and several glass beads. I have also heard of a large penannular brooch and a blue and white glass bead found there, but now lost.

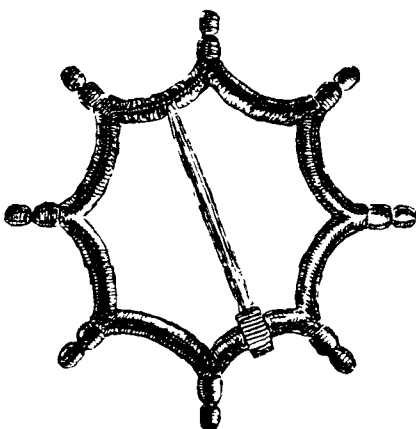


Fig. 1. Bronze Brooch from Gorteen Bay. (†.)

The result of about ten days' search by myself in August 1924 was:—

1. Numerous relics of prehistoric man: flint arrow-heads, scrapers, potsherds, etc., some probably of Bronze Age date.
2. Nearly one hundred clinch-nails of the typical Viking type (Du Chaillu's *Viking Age*, figs. 996 and 997), also numerous iron nails, square in section.
3. Portions of six small daggers or knives, one nearly perfect (fig. 2).
4. Portions of six barbed and socketed iron arrow-heads (fig. 3).
5. Four glass beads (fig. 4, Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 6). No. 1 is of yellow glass, and is ornamented with knobs resembling grapes. Also a small white glass knob like the glass inlays on some Viking disc fibulæ (fig. 4, No. 7).

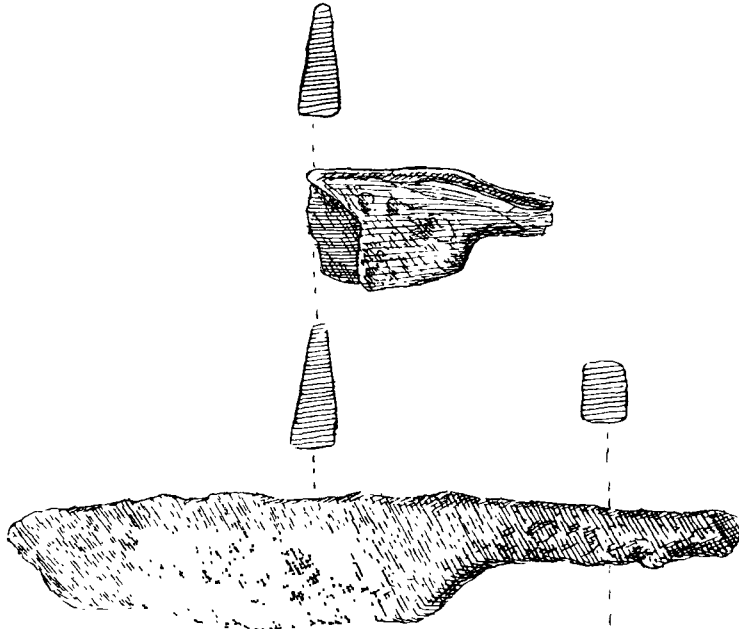


Fig. 2. Iron Knives from Gorten Bay. (1.)

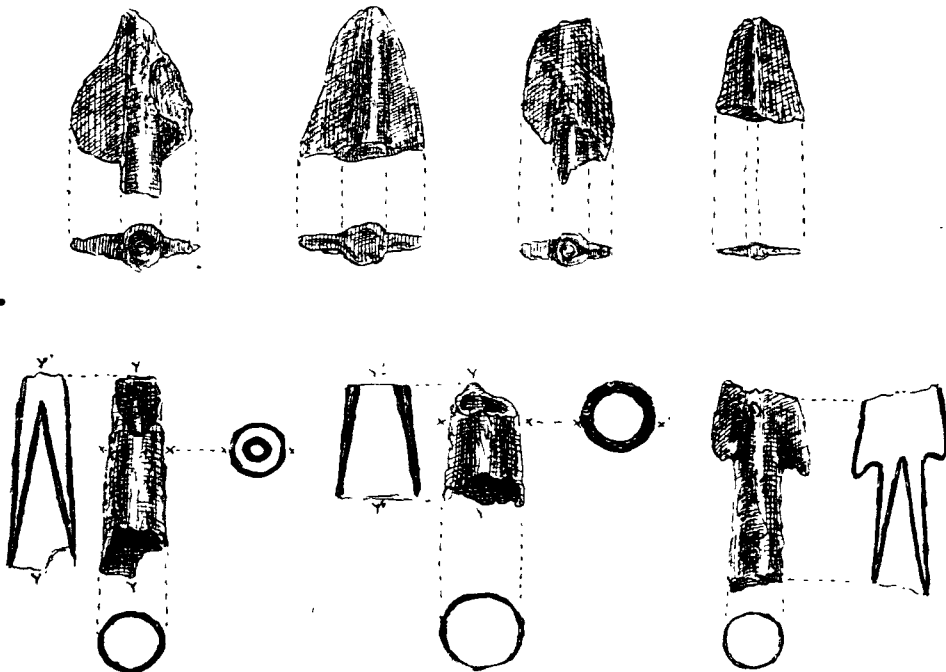


Fig. 3. Iron Arrow-heads from Gorten Bay. (1.)

6. Large quantities of vitrified material, possibly due to the lighting of extensive fires, it may be to the burning of ships, on the sand.

7. A small piece of iron chain; its links are parallel sided, about 1 inch in length.

8. Numerous relics possibly of a later fight: a coin of Charles II., musket-balls, a brass pin with twisted wire head of the type common before industrial revolution, and other objects.

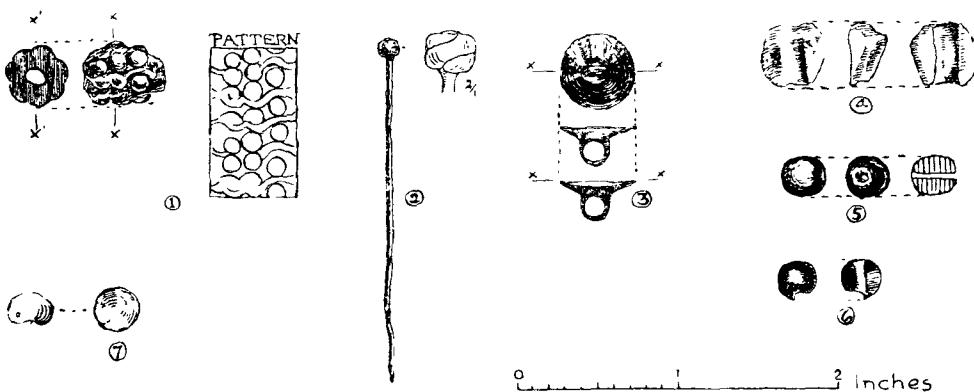


Fig. 4. Glass Beads and other Objects from Gorten Bay.

In conclusion, it appears that the spears, daggers, arrow-heads of iron, beads, and coin of Edward may be all included in one series of late thirteenth-century date. It is known that in A.D. 1297, Roderick of Bute and Lachlan MacRuari of Garmoran ravished Skye and Lewis, and burnt ships of Edward I. commanded by Alexander of Islay, Edward's Admiral of the Isles (Anderson's *Historical Documents of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 187). It is possible that some of this fighting occurred at Cul na Croise. Of course other coin finds may fix a later date than this, but with the facts at my disposal I find agreement of dates tempting.

MONDAY, 9th February 1925.

SIR ANDREW N. AGNEW, BART., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

JAMES BEVERIDGE, M.A., Rector of Linlithgow Academy, Wellbank,  
Linlithgow.

JOHN DOUGLAS-BOSWELL CAMPBELL, 25 Ainslie Place.

Mrs FRANK DALZIEL, Streatham, Canaan Lane.

GEORGE EYRE-TODD, J.P., Auchendarich, by Balloch.

JAMES HAMILTON, Mossbank School, Glasgow.

WILLIAM GEMMILL CHALMERS HANNA, O.B.E., C.A., 6 Lennox Street.

ALEXANDER LAUDER, D.Sc., F.R.S.E., 13 George Square.

ROBERT MURDOCH LAWRENCE, "Cairnchina," 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen.

FRANK MILLER, Cumberland House, Annan, Dumfriesshire.

RICHARD FERRAR PATTERSON, M.A.(Cantab.), D.Litt.(Glas.), 10 Dunure  
Street, Maryhill, Glasgow.

JAMES RUSSELL, Town Clerk of Linlithgow, 51 High Street, Linlithgow.

Major ARCHIBALD STIRLING, Garden, Bucklyvie, Stirlingshire.

JAMES TULLOCH, M.A., 28 Wilton Gardens, Glasgow, N.W.

JAMES MULLO WEIR, S.S.C., 21 Mayfield Terrace.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks  
voted to the Donors:—

(1) By J. TAYLOR GIBB, F.S.A.Scot.

Four examples of Mauchline fancy goods, made by "Smith, Mauchline,  
Manufacturers to His Majesty" (William IV.), comprising a Snuff Box  
with rounded ends, measuring 4 inches by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch by 1 inch, the  
exterior painted in "Prince Charlie" tartan colours, with a group of  
red deer in gilding on the top of the lid; a Wafer Box, measuring  $1\frac{3}{8}$   
inch by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch, the exterior painted in "Rob Roy" tartan  
colours; a small Strop in sheath, painted in "M'Pherson" tartan colours;  
and a small papier-mâché Plate or Tray, measuring  $6\frac{3}{8}$  inches in diameter,  
painted in "Stuart" tartan colours.

(2) By J. G. PATTERSON, 12 Inverleith Row.

Pan-pipes, consisting of eleven reeds, from the Black Isle, Ross-  
shire, said to have belonged to Mackenzie, a shepherd, who played  
them in the presence of Prince Charlie.

(3) By Rev. WILLIAM A. GILLIES, B.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Relics taken out of the Holy Well at Inschadney, Kenmore, Perthshire:—A rude Stone Cup, measuring 7 inches in diameter and  $2\frac{7}{16}$  inches in height, the cavity  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches in diameter and  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch deep; three small Copper Coins, one a farthing of George III., dated 1806, the others unidentifiable; three small Metal Buttons; a small flattened, spheroidal Bead, measuring  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, of opalescent glass; and six small Wire-headed Pins. (See previous communication by Mr Gillies.)

(4) By JAMES S. RICHARDSON, F.S.A.Scot.

Part of Deer-horn Pick, from a kitchen-midden at North Berwick Law.

(5) By JOHN R. W. CLARK, F.S.A.Scot.

Mug of dark stoneware, with an upright wall, contracting slightly in diameter from the base to the lip, and a small, broad lug on each side, measuring  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches in height,  $3\frac{11}{16}$  inches in diameter at the base, and 3 inches at the rim. Below the lip it is encircled by two incised parallel lines, and the interior is covered with yellow glaze, found about April 1910 while peats were being dug in Dilty Moss, Carmyllie, Forfarshire.

Rude home-made Dice Box and three Dice of wood; the box measures  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length and  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches in diameter, and is of cylindrical form, the outside being turned and the interior dug out with a chisel, from Arbroath.

Rudely made joiner's Compasses, of wood, from Forfarshire.

(6) By WILLIAM HUTCHISON, 88 Craighouse Road.

Fragment (about half) of a Jet Button; the surface of the conical top has crumbled away, and it is broken across the V-shaped perforation underneath, exposing the method of boring, found by the donor, before 1878, in a stone cist containing unburnt human bones, on Holmains, Dalton, Dumfriesshire.

(7) By GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot.

Two rim fragments of a wheel-turned Vessel of thin, hard red ware, with an upright wall, and a projecting rim which is concave on the top; and a basal fragment of a wheel-turned Vessel of thin, hard dark ware; both from the potter's kiln at Mumrills Roman Fort. (See *Proceedings*, vol. xlix. p. 127.)

Fragment of a Tile, measuring  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 3 inches, with a lozenge design on the exterior, from Mumrills.

(8) By G. G. SINCLAIR, 39 Buckingham Terrace.

Collection of fragments of Neolithic and Bronze Age Pottery, a Loom Weight, and four Flint Implements, from various sites in Malta.

The following purchases for the Museum were announced:—

Carved Stone Ball with eight projecting bosses, measuring 3 inches in diameter and weighing  $16\frac{1}{4}$  oz., found on the farm of Balnasume, west of Lawers, Perthshire.

Two Badges of the Edinburgh Skating Society and a Pass to the Edinburgh Amphitheatre, all of silver, which belonged to James Dewar of Vogrie. The first badge is oval, with a free ring for suspension at the top, measuring  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch by  $1\frac{5}{16}$  inch, and bearing on the obverse a crest (an arm in armour, the hand grasping a dagger) with the motto *Quid non pro patriâ* at the top, and EDINBURGH | SKATING | SOCIETY | JAMES DEWAR | ESQ<sup>r</sup>, below; on the reverse is a pair of skates crossed, with the motto *Ocior euro* above. The second badge is oval, with a fixed ring for suspension at the top, measuring  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, bearing on the obverse EDINBURGH | SKATING | SOCIETY | JAMES DEWAR | 1801, and on the reverse a design and motto similar to those on the first. The Pass is vesica-shaped, with a perforation at the top, measuring  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch, and bearing on the obverse the inscription EDINBURGH AMPHITHEATRE along the sides, and JANUARY 1790 in the centre; on the reverse JAMES DEWAR | ESQ OF VOGRIE.

Horn Salt Spoon,  $4\frac{1}{8}$  inches long, from Perth.

The following Donations of Books to the Library were intimated:—

(1) By Major-General GRANVILLE EGERTON, Geddington Priory, Kettering.

• List of Members of the Wig Club, with the Rules abridged, December 1827.

(2) By GEORGE F. BLACK, D.Ph., Corresponding Member.

The Romantic School in American Archæology. By Adolphe F. Bandelier. 14 pp.

Transformations and Migrations of Certain Statues in the Cesnola Collection. By Clarence Cook.

Answer of Gaston L. Feuardent to L. P. Cesnola. New York, 1881

Opere e Memorie di Giuseppe Sergi. Rome, 1916.

A Study in the Commerce of Latium, from the Early Iron Age through the Sixth Century B.C. By Louise E. W. Adams, Ph.D.

Ancient Mexican Feather Work at the Columbian Historical Exposition at Madrid. By Zelia Nuttall. Washington, 1895.

The Eastern Iron Trade of the Roman Empire. By Wilfred H. Schoff. 17 pp.

The New York Public Library. List of Works relating to Numismatics. 1914.

The Stone Idols of New Mexico.

The Stone Lions of Cochiti. By L. Bradford Prince, LL.D.

(3) By R. REITZENSTEIN, Dahlmannstr. 16, Göttingen, the Author.  
Weltuntergangs-Vorstellungen. Uppsala, 1924.

(4) By JOHN A. STEWART, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.  
Stewart Arms: Recent Matriculations and Grants.

(5) By The BIBLIOTHÈQUE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ ROYALE, Oslo, Norway.  
Norges Indskrifter med de aeldre Runer. 3die Bind, ved Magnus Olsen. 3die Hefte.

Laerde Brev fraa og til P. A. Munch ved Gustav Indrebø og Oluf Kølrsrud. Fyrste Bandet, 1832-50.

(6) By Professor E. RITTERLING, Honorary Fellow, the Compiler.  
Legio Bestand, Verteilung und kriegerische Betätigung der Legionen von Augustus bis Diocletian. Stuttgart, 1924.

(7) By The INSTITUT DE PALÉONTOLOGIE HUMAINE.  
Les Combarelles aux Eyzies (Dordogne), par Le Dr L. Capitan, l'Abbé H. Breuil, et D. Peyrony.

(8) By J. BOYD JAMIESON, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., F.S.A.Scot.  
Historical Memoir of the Family of Eglinton and Winton. By John Fullarton. Ardrossan, 1864.

(9) By ANDREW FORGAN, F.S.A.Scot.  
The Story of the Old Time Communion Service and Worship, also the Metallic Communion Token of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1772. By Rev. George A. MacLennan, B.A., Montreal.

(10) By WALTER J. KAYE, M.A., F.S.A., F.S.A.Scot.  
The Parish Register of Eston, 1590-1812. Privately printed for the Yorkshire Parish Register Society, 1924.

The purchase of the following books for the Library was intimated:—

Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England). An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in London. Vol. I.—Westminster Abbey.

Dictionnaire d'Archéologie Chrétienne et de Liturgie. Cabrol. Vol. VI. Part I. G—Gotha. Paris, 1924.

The following Communications were read:—

# I.

A HOARD OF BRONZE OBJECTS FROM WESTER ORD, ROSS-SHIRE,  
AND AN EARLY IRON AGE BURIAL AT BLACKNESS CASTLE,  
LINLITHGOWSHIRE. BY JAMES S. RICHARDSON, F.S.A.Scot.

## HOARD OF BRONZE OBJECTS FROM WESTER ORD.

In October last, I perceived in the shop of Mr Murdoch, Dealer in Antiquities, Inverness, a collection of bronze objects, one of which I recognised as having been illustrated in Dr Joseph Anderson's *Scotland in Pagan Times, Bronze and Stone Ages*. Realising the importance of my discovery, I secured the entire collection, which Mr Murdoch told me he had purchased at the sale of household effects at Invergordon Castle. The hoard consists of two socketed axes, a curved socketed tool, a gouge, a socketed knife, a penannular armlet, and two fragments of a neck-ring.

All these objects belong to the end of the Bronze Age, exhibit the same degree of patination, and have now been identified as the hoard unearthed from under the corner of a large earth-fast boulder on the farm of Wester Ord, on the Invergordon property, in 1859, where apparently they had been buried wrapped up in cloth.

At a meeting of this Society held on 14th February 1870, the curved socketed tool and the neck-ring fragments were exhibited by Mr M'Leod of Cadboll, on whose property they had been found, and a full description of these two exhibits and an illustration of the former is given in *Proceedings*, vol. viii. p. 309. From this note we learn that there were at that time three fragments of the neck-ring in existence, and also that there was another penannular armlet.



## DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS.

*Socketed Axes.*—The larger (fig. 1, No. 1) measures  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches long and  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches across the cutting edge. The external diameter at the mouth of the socket, which has the lip thickened by a moulding, is  $1\frac{11}{16}$  inch by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch. The other (fig. 1, No. 2) is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch across the cutting edge, and has a similar thickening at the lip of the socket mouth, the external diameter of which is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch; the lip is imperfect, as is also the loop.

*Curved Socketed Tool.*—This implement (fig. 1, No. 3) measures  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches along the outer curve. The socket is  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches deep, and has a moulding on the outside of the mouth, its external diameter being  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch. The socket tapers rapidly into a midrib which is confined to the inner side of the blade; it is furnished near the mouth with pin-holes piercing the socket from front to back. The blade is leaf-shaped, and measures  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch at its greatest width.

*Gouge.*—This tool (fig. 1, No. 4) is  $4\frac{1}{16}$  inches long, and the external diameter of the socket is  $\frac{11}{16}$  inch. Below the lip on the outside the implement is encircled by four incised lines. The mouth of the socket is imperfect on one side.

*Socketed Knife.*—This object (fig. 1, No. 5) is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches long; the blade is broken at the point, damaged on the cutting edges, and measures  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch at its greatest breadth. The remains of a rectangular socket with rounded corners show one of two rivet-holes which had pierced the socket from side to side.

*Penannular Armlet.*—The ornament (fig. 1, No. 6) measures in diameter 3 inches by  $2\frac{9}{16}$  inches; the ring is of oval section, measuring  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch in section, and expanding at the terminals, which have a greater projection on the outside.

*Neck-ring Fragments.*—These (fig. 1, No. 7) measure  $4\frac{7}{8}$  inches and  $3\frac{7}{8}$  inches long respectively. The diameter of the rod is  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch. Round the outside of the ring, placed at centres varying from  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch apart, is a series of small cup-like hollows, having lips of greater projection on the sides than at the ends. These are the remains of small loops in each of which was probably hung a small ring similar to those on the fine necklet found at the Braes of Gight, Aberdeenshire,<sup>1</sup> illustrated in fig. 1, No. 1, on p. 156 of this volume. One of the fragments has an expanding end, which is pierced by a small hole running obliquely from the end towards the inside of the curve, possibly for the purpose of fixing a ring or other terminal.

The curved socketed tool is the finest of the three known Scottish

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xxv. p. 185.

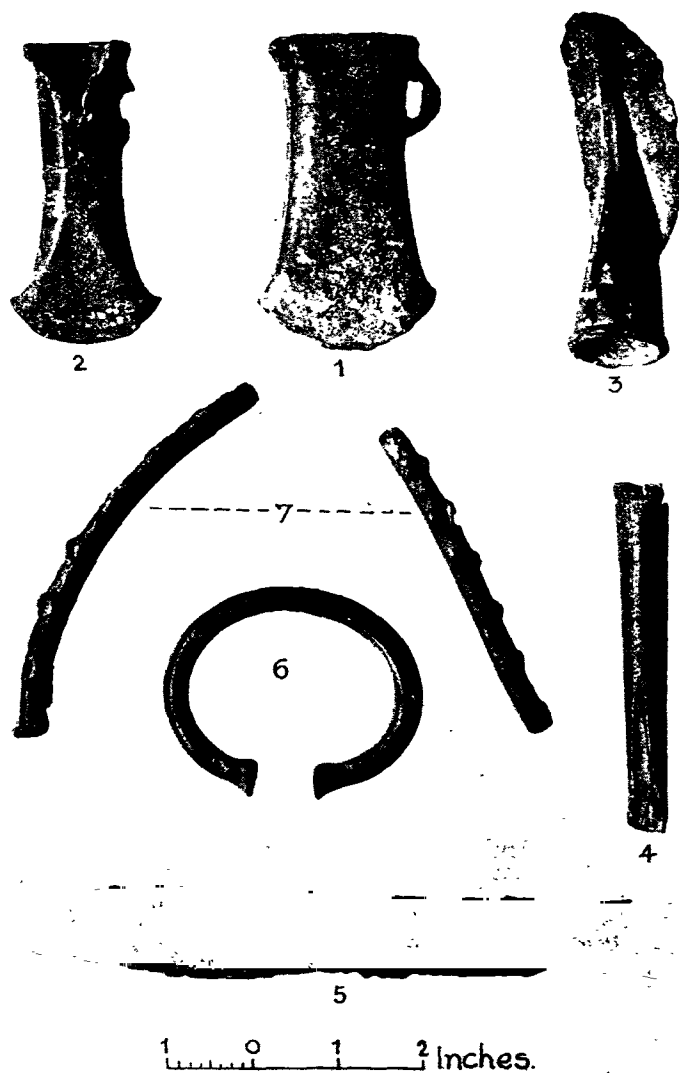


Fig. 1. Hoard of Bronze Objects from Wester Ord, Ross-shire.

examples, all of which are preserved in our National Collection. The socketed knife must also be considered a rare type of implement, as only five other specimens have been recorded in Scotland. Gouges also are seldom found in this country, this being the seventh noted. It is singular in length and in the incised ornamentation round the mouth of the socket. The neck-ring is the second example of its kind which has come under my notice, the other being the one from the Braes of Gight already mentioned. On the 6-inch O.S. map, the farm of Ord, presumably where the discovery was made, is in the parish of Ross-keen, and lies below the 50-foot contour-line,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile north-east of Invergordon Railway Station. It may be mentioned that in this parish were found the only two known examples of socketed bronze axe moulds of stone found in Scotland.

#### EARLY IRON AGE BURIAL AT BLACKNESS CASTLE.

Blackness Castle, situated on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth, occupies the seaward end of a low promontory at the north-east corner of the parish of Borrowstounness and Carriden, in the county of Linlithgow; (O.S., Linlithgowshire, 6-inch sheet, ii., N.W. and S.W.).

It was after H.M. Commissioners of Works had assumed control of the ground and the modern buildings, situated on the south side of the castle, that workmen in making a flower-bed on the north side of the barrack buildings, occupying the south side of this outer court, came upon an Early Iron Age burial. The site is 70 yards in a south-westerly direction from the south-east angle of the south tower, and 10 feet east of the north-west corner of the barrack buildings. Unfortunately, the grave was partially disturbed through the workmen not recognising its interest until they had found a bronze armlet. This find was reported to Mr Percy, the foreman, who at once took the necessary steps to safeguard the grave and its contents until a proper examination could be made.

On the discovery being reported to me, I went to Blackness on 8th February 1924. I cleared away the covering consisting of shell and grit until the grave construction and skeleton (fig. 2) were fully exposed. The burial was a full-length one; the skeleton was 14 inches below the surface, lying north and south, and face downwards. The head was to the north, the legs being inclined slightly to the east. The arms were against the sides, bent at the elbows, the hands lying near the chin. It was evident that the skeleton had been disturbed, as I found the right humerus inverted.

The sides of the grave were formed by a setting of small seaworn stones, but I found that the workmen had removed those which had enclosed the legs of the skeleton (fig. 3). The surviving part of the

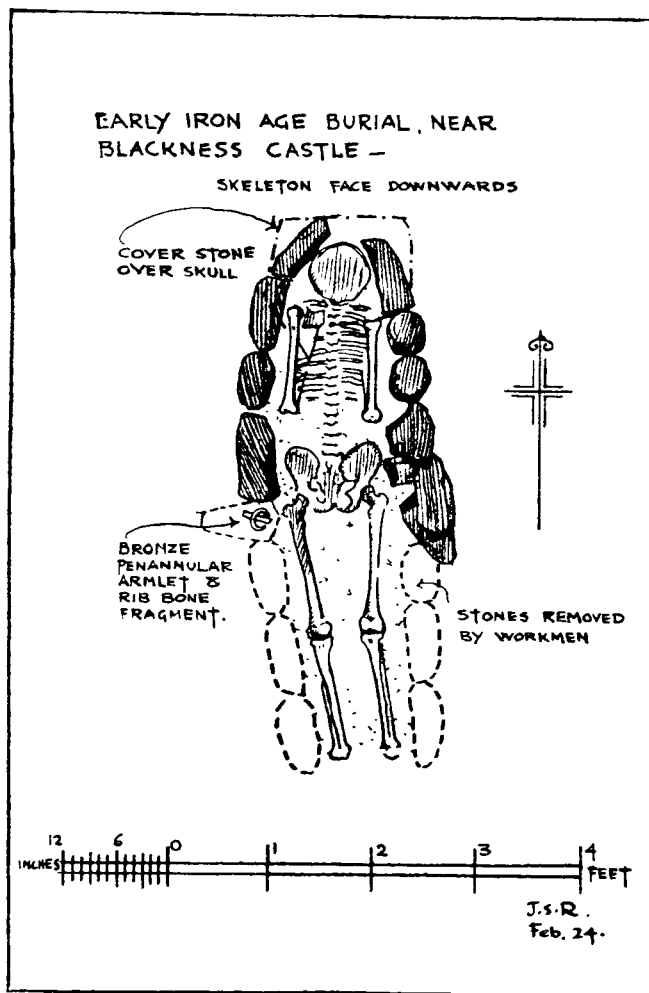


Fig. 2. Plan of Grave at Blackness Castle.

grave was 3 feet long, and measured on an average 15 inches wide. A flat stone measuring 17 inches at its greatest length, 13 inches at its greatest width, and 3 inches deep, covered the skull, which lay crushed, and this appears to have been the only remaining cover-stone. Probably the others were removed at some previous time.

The bronze armlet (fig. 4) was lying below one of the small stones near the pelvis on the west side. It had been replaced here by Mr



Fig. 3. Photograph of Northern Half of Grave at Blackness Castle.

Percy, where it was stated it had been found. Adhering to this relic was a small fragment of a rib bone, stained green owing to its long



Fig. 4. Bronze Armlet from Blackness Castle. (1.)

contact with the bronze. The workman who made the discovery was positive that he had found the armlet lying in the position described. The close association of these two relics leads to the assumption that the armlet was on the arm and lay against the ribs. Its removal from

the original position probably accounts for the disturbing and misplacing of the right humerus as described.

The armlet is of a type new to Scottish archæology; it is of bronze, penannular, and of oval section, flattened in the inside. In outline it presents a swelling in the middle, fining down, then expanding gradually towards the ends. It is ornamented on the outside in low relief. The ends and the middle have vertical ridged bands, the spaces between these being filled with horizontal reeds. On the thinner part of this object there is an indication of a chevron ornament. The armlet measures  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches in cross diameter externally, and must have been subject to long use, as the pattern on the periphery is much worn.

This is the fourth single grave of the Early Iron Age recorded in Scotland. Of the three previously recorded, the examples at Moredun, Liberton parish, Midlothian,<sup>1</sup> and Kippit Hill, Dolphinton parish, Lanarkshire,<sup>2</sup> were short cists resembling those of the Bronze Age, while the third, discovered at Burnmouth, Berwickshire,<sup>3</sup> was a long cist like the example described. Two groups of burial cairns discovered in the sand-dunes near Gullane, East Lothian,<sup>4</sup> also belong to this period.

Professor Arthur Robinson, Edinburgh University, who examined the bones, states that "they are those of a female about thirty years old.

"The femora are platymeric and the tibiæ are platycnemic, a condition which is present in other skeletons of the Iron Age.

"Most of the bones are broken and parts of them are absent. The skull is broken, and some of the fragments are not present, but with the exception of the conditions mentioned above, none of the bones show any features of special importance which would enable them to be separated from bones of present-day people."

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xxxviii. p. 427.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. lv. p. 45.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. lviii. p. 143.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xxxvi. p. 654, and vol. xlii. p. 332.

## II.

A HOARD OF COINS, TWO SPOONS, AND A CANE TOP OF SILVER FROM IRVINE, AND A SPOON OF THE SAME METAL FROM HADDINGTON. BY J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, F.S.A.Scot., DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.

## THE IRVINE HOARD.

On 11th December 1923, while some workmen were digging for the foundations of a new building to be erected at 172 High Street, Irvine, they turned up a quantity of coins, two spoons, and a cane top of silver (fig. 1). These being recovered by the King's Remembrancer on behalf of the Crown as Treasure Trove, were submitted to the National Museum for examination.

According to the Procurator-Fiscal's report, the coins and other objects were found about 1 foot down in the ground, in the angle of two walls in the foundation of the building which was being demolished. Although the coins were distributed amongst the workmen at the time of the discovery, it is believed that the whole of the find was recovered. The two spoons were intact when found, but one was broken across the stem afterwards by one of the workmen; however, as it was a clean break, there was no difficulty in getting the parts rejoined.

The spoons are similar in shape and ornamentation. They have an elliptical bowl with a short tongue where the stem runs into the bowl at the back, and a flat stem which expands in width gradually for about the first half of its length, and more rapidly for the second half towards the top, which terminates in a flat circular disc with a small pentagonal projection at the end. Below the disc, which bears engraved initials within a single marginal line, is an oval transverse panel with no designs beyond an incised marginal line. Between this panel and the middle of the stem is a crude attempt at a foliaceous design, and at the junction of the stem and bowl a hatched triangular pattern.

One spoon, that which was broken and repaired, measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, the bowl being  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches broad, and the stem 5 inches long; it weighs 1 oz. 12 dwt. 14 grs. Troy. On the circular disc at the top of the stem are the initials I C with a Y-shaped figure, an heraldic shake-fork, between them. On either side of the tongue at the back of the bowl are the initials D C. The other spoon, which measures  $7\frac{1}{8}$  inches in total length, with a bowl  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches broad, has the initials I F engraved on the front of the disc at the top of the

stem, and the initials B C on the back of the bowl. This spoon, which weighs 1 oz. 9 dwt. 1 gr. Troy, has a short crack on one side of the bowl. On the back of the stem of both spoons are the Edinburgh hall-marks L S (John Scott), a castle, and I F (John Fraser) (fig. 5, No. 1), and a

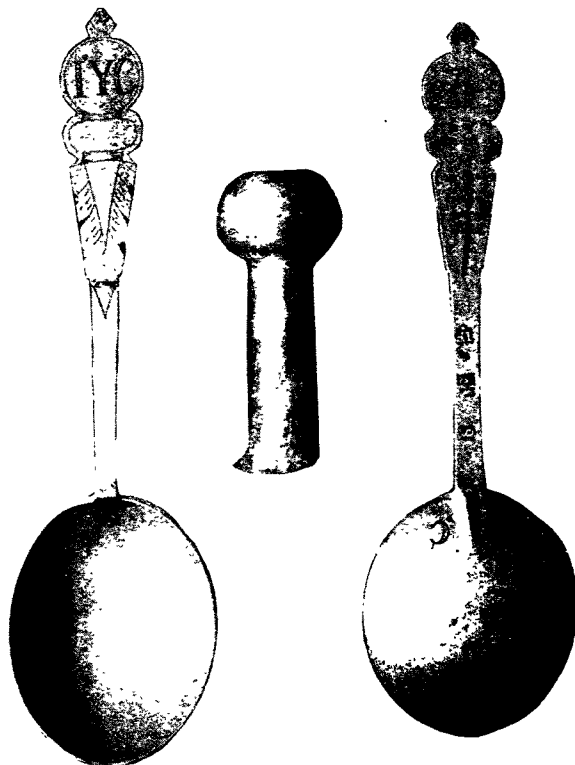


Fig. 1. Silver Spoons and Cane-top from Irvine. (4.)

longitudinal groove made by the rocking movement of a wriggling tool when testing the fineness of the metal.

The cane top is slightly dented on the end, and the mouth of the socket is split and rent outwards, evidently done by breaking the silver top off the cane. Part of the wood, which seems to be Malacca cane, remains in the cavity. The top is a flattened spheroid, measuring



$1\frac{5}{16}$  inch in diameter and 1 inch in height, and the socket, which has a regular diameter of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, is  $2\frac{1}{16}$  inches in length. On the end is engraved a shield bearing the arms of Cuninghame of Cuninghamehead,<sup>1</sup> in the parish of Dreghorn, in Ayrshire, the arms being a shake-fork between two garbs and a mullet-in-chief, with the letters D E C (fig. 2).

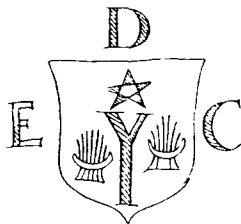


Fig. 2. Cuninghame Arms on Cane Top. (†.)

Dr George Macdonald, who examined the coins, has supplied the following report:—

“The coins from Irvine submitted to me for examination numbered 351, with two fragments—all being of silver. They may be classified as follows:—

<i>Edward VI.</i>	
Sixpence . . . . .	1
<i>Mary of England.</i>	
Groats . . . . .	21
<i>Philip and Mary.</i>	
Groats . . . . .	8
<i>Elizabeth.</i>	
(10 shillings, 114 sixpences, 25 groats, 8 threepenny-pieces)	157
<i>James I. and VI., English, Irish, and Scottish.</i>	
(8 English shillings and 14 English sixpences; 6 Irish shillings and 12 Irish sixpences; 1 thistle merk, 1 half thistle merk, and 8 quarter thistle merks)	50
<i>Charles I., English and Scottish.</i>	
(1 half-crown, 33 shillings, 23 sixpences, and 3 half-groats; 40 forty-penny-pieces)	100
Unidentified . . . . .	12
Spanish coins . . . . .	2
	<hr/>
	351

“The hoard must have been concealed ten or fifteen years after the accession of Charles I. It can hardly be dated more precisely.

“None of the coins seem worth retaining for the Museum.”

<sup>1</sup> Nisbet's *Heraldry*, 1816, vol. i. p. 193.

The spoons and the cane top were retained for the National Collection, and a reward was sent to the finders along with the coins, all of which were returned.

• As shown by the hall-marks, the spoons were made by John Scott, a goldsmith in Edinburgh, who was admitted to the Incorporation of Goldsmiths in 1621, and was deacon of the craft in 1637-9 and in 1646-8. The deacon's mark, by which we might be able to get the exact date of the spoons, is that of John Fraser, admitted in 1624. But in consequence of his name not being found in the official list of deacons, it has been presumed that he acted only as interim deacon at various times, his stamp appearing as the deacon's mark on several pieces of old Communion plate.<sup>1</sup> It is not known in which years Fraser was interim deacon, and thus we cannot tell the year in which the spoons were made. However, as we have seen that, from the evidence of the coins, Dr Macdonald considers the hoard to have been deposited between 1635 and 1640, we may take it that the spoons were made some time before the latter of these dates. As neither of the silversmiths were entitled to mark plate before 1621 and 1624 respectively, the spoons must have been made between 1621 at the earliest and 1640 at the latest.

At the first glance it seemed likely that it might be possible to find a closer date for the spoons by trying to identify the persons whose initials appear on them and on the cane top, but the results of this inquiry are not conclusive.

Taking the cane top first, there is no doubt that the arms engraved on it are those of Cuninghame of Cuninghamehead, and it is probable that the initials D E C are probably those of Lady Elizabeth Cuninghame, wife of Sir William Cuninghame, the first baronet.<sup>2</sup> As they were married in 1619, the date of the spoons would be quite suitable for this identification. However, there was another Lady Elizabeth Cuninghame about this time, a sister of Sir William, who married a Colonel Sir George Cuninghame in 1622; but it would have been an irregularity for her to have assumed her father's arms after her marriage. Coming to the spoons, we have seen that one bears the initials I C and D C, with the Cuninghame shake-fork between the first two; but I have not been able to trace any members of the Cuninghamehead family who, at this time, had these initials. As for the initials I F and B C on the other spoon, it may be suggested that they are those of James Fullarton of Fullarton and his wife Barbara Cuninghame, married in 1624, this Barbara being the sister of the last-mentioned Elizabeth Cuninghame and of Sir William also referred to. But there is another Barbara Cuninghame

<sup>1</sup> A. J. S. Brook in Burns' *Old Scottish Communion Plate*, p. 553.

<sup>2</sup> Paterson, *History of the County of Ayr*, vol. i. p. 451.

with whom one would have liked to have been able to associate the initials. She was the daughter of Sir William, and married William Mure of Caldwell. As Covenanters she and her husband suffered much

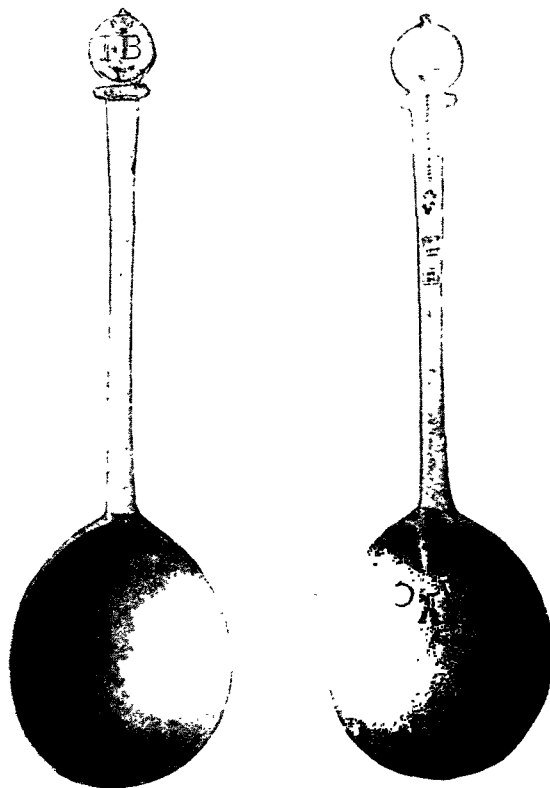


Fig. 3. Silver Spoons found in Irvine.

“for their adherence to the cause of civil and religious liberty.” Mure’s estates were forfeited and he died in exile, while his wife was thrown into Blackness Castle, and remained a close prisoner there for three years.<sup>1</sup> This lady must have been born within four or five years of

<sup>1</sup> Maitland Club, *Caldwell Papers*, part i. p. 141.

the earliest date for the spoon, and while the possibility of the initials on it being hers need not be dismissed altogether, the combination of the initials I F and B C on it seems to make it more probable that

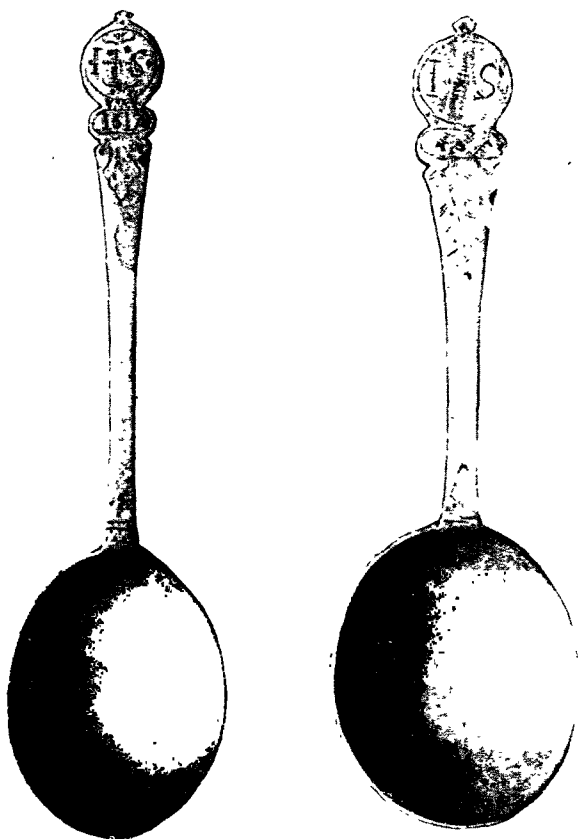


Fig. 4. Silver Spoons from the Hill of Culrain, Ross-shire.

they are those of her aunt Barbara Cuninghame and the latter's husband James Fullarton.

There are other two sets of silver spoons in the Museum which belong to the early part of the seventeenth century. One set, consisting of four perfect spoons and the bowl of another, was also found in

Irvine, while taking down an old house in the Townhead about 1865, and, what is more remarkable, belonged, as we shall see, to people of the same surname as those recently found. Two of these spoons are illustrated in fig. 3. The second set, consisting of six spoons in good condition, was found on the Hill of Culrain, in Ross-shire, about 1859. Fig. 4 shows two of this set. There is also another example bearing the Canongate hall-mark preserved in the Museum. It is of much the same shape as the others, but it is of a rather earlier make, as it bears the date 1589.

This set of Irvine spoons differs very slightly in form from the two found recently. They have the same shape of bowl and a similar disc at the top of the stem, but the transverse panel below the disc is smaller and the stem is narrower. On the front of the disc of the four complete spoons are engraved the initials I B. On the back of the

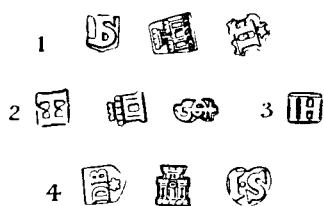


Fig. 5. Edinburgh Hall-marks on Spoons. (†.)

stem are the hall-marks E H (Edward Hairt), a castle, and G H in monogram (George Heriot, father of the more famous son of the same name)<sup>1</sup> (fig. 5, No. 2); on the back of the bowl of the whole five are the initials A C, with the Cuninghame shake-fork between. The name represented by the initials I B has not been identified, neither has that indicated by the initials A C, but these no doubt are those of a member of a family of the name of

Cunningham, of which there were many in the northern part of Ayrshire, from which they take their name.

The six Culrain spoons, of which three are rather smaller than the others (fig. 4), are almost identical in form and ornamentation with those recently found in Irvine. On the front of the disc at the top of the stem are the initials I S, and on the back of the stem the maker's stamp I H (fig. 5, No. 3), while on the back of the bowl are the initials C M. None of the owners of any of these initials has been identified. In addition to the initials on the front of the stem the three smaller spoons have the date 1617 incised on the panel below the disc bearing the initials.

#### THE SPOON FROM HADDINGTON.

While cutting a trench for water-pipes in Church Street, Haddington, in September last, one of the workmen found a silver spoon, the bowl of

<sup>1</sup> Hairt received the freedom of his Incorporation in 1575, and was deacon in 1579-81 and 1582-3, and George Heriot was deacon many times between 1565 and 1638.—*Old Scottish Communion Plate*, pp. 549, 550.

which was crushed and bent. The metal being in good condition, since being received at the Museum it has been straightened out, and now shows only a crack in the bowl (fig. 6). The total length of the spoon is  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches, the bowl, which is oval and shallow, measuring  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches long and  $2\frac{7}{16}$  inches broad. The stem, which is flat, measures  $4\frac{5}{8}$  inches in length, and varies from  $\frac{9}{32}$  inch in breadth at its junction with the bowl to  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch at the top, which is cut off square. On the front of the top of the stem it is decorated with an engraved rude foliaceous design with a heart-shaped ornament below, and there is an incised triangle at the foot. On the back of the stem are the hall-marks D B (David Bog, maker), a castle, and I S (James Symonstoun, deacon of the incorporation, 1665-7) (fig. 5, No. 4), and the groove made in testing the quality of the metal. On the back of the bowl are the initials R M. The spoon was made in Edinburgh about 1666, and weighs 1 oz. 7 dwt. Troy.

As Scottish silver plate of the seventeenth century is not common, it is very gratifying that these two finds should have been secured for our National Museum. Of the type with the disc at the top of the stem there are now fourteen examples in the National Collection, which is the more satisfactory as this shape of spoon seems to have been popular in Scotland in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, seeing that most, if not all, of them were made in Edinburgh, and they were found so far apart as Ayrshire and Ross-shire.

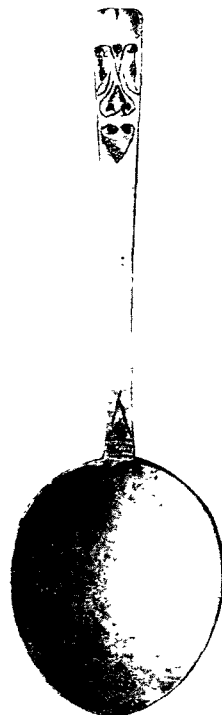


Fig. 6. Silver Spoon from Haddington. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ .)

## III.

WHIN-MILLS IN ABERDEENSHIRE. BY JAMES RITCHIE, F.E.I.S.,  
CORRESPONDING MEMBER, S.A.SCOT.

The position of agriculture to-day in Aberdeenshire is very different from what it was a century or two ago. Now the county is one of the best cultivated in Scotland, its crops of oats and turnips are excellent, its black-polled and shorthorn cattle are famous the world over, and no beef realises a higher price in the London market than that sent from Aberdeenshire. But this state of matters is comparatively modern; not so long ago a great deal of the land now in cultivation was waste, being marshy and waterlogged, or covered with heather, whins, and broom, while even the cultivated land was overgrown with weeds to such an extent that the crops produced were scanty and of poor quality. The methods of cultivation too were primitive: the fields were unfenced and of all shapes and sizes. They were divided into "infield" and "outfield," that is, those near the farm-steading and those at a distance from it. To the former all the manure produced on the farm was applied, while the latter were worked as long as a paying crop was produced, and then, when their fertility for the time being was exhausted, they were allowed to lie fallow, till nature in some degree restored it. The farm buildings were poor, and so were the farmers. In ordinary times it was a hard struggle to make a living, and when bad seasons came, farmers and the country people in general often suffered great hardship. A bad harvest still inflicts loss on the farmer, but its effects on the general community have been largely modified by the importation of food from abroad. Formerly a bad harvest entailed not only financial loss, but often starvation and death, not only because there was little or no importation of foreign food-stuffs, but because, owing to bad roads and inefficient means of communication, the surplus of one district was not readily available to meet the wants of another, even within what we would now regard as easy reach.

Privations were not confined to the people of the district, the live stock also bore its share, and this share was all the greater owing to the system of farming then in vogue. Turnips were almost unknown in Aberdeenshire till the latter half of the eighteenth century, and even then were not largely cultivated. They were at first sown broadcast, and were regarded more as curiosities or as vegetables for domestic use than as an important farm crop. There were no extraneous supplies,

such as oil-cake and other feeding-stuffs, to give to the cattle, which had to depend solely on the food produced on the farm. In times of scarcity, when straw was short and grass scanty, the farmer had often great difficulty in carrying his stock safely through the winter till the fresh spring grass appeared. Sometimes he had to sacrifice his least valuable animals to save the lives of the more valuable ones. There is a "pot" or pool in the Don, near Parkhill, about six miles from Aberdeen, in which, tradition says, criminals were drowned in the days of "pot and gallows," and a large stone on the bank is still pointed out as the spot where the judge sat in order to see his sentence carried out. But the pot is said to have been used also for the drowning of foals in time of famine, when the owner had not sufficient food to keep both mare and foal alive. Better sacrifice a foal to save a mare than risk the loss of both by starvation. Of course, the foals so destroyed were of little value, since the horses were small and were used chiefly for carrying pack-saddles. The heavy work of the farm was done by oxen, and even they were of so little value that towards the close of the eighteenth century a strong young work ox could be bought for about £6 sterling, while an old worn-out one was sold to the butcher for sometimes as small a sum as £3.

Another local custom indicating the state of scarcity which might prevail in winter was that of "cattle lifting." When, after a hard winter or late spring, the grass did ultimately begin to grow, it occasionally happened that some of the cattle, reduced by a winter's want, were too weak to make their way to the grazings. As a consequence, neighbouring farmers banded together, and, proceeding from one farm to another, actually "lifted" the weakly cattle from the stalls to the pasture. The poor condition of the cattle may have been increased in some cases by the curious custom of bleeding living cattle in times of great scarcity, in order that the blood so obtained should be mixed with oatmeal and used as human food. It was a cruel and barbarous custom, but it shows to what straits our forerunners were brought by the menace of starvation.

#### I. THE USE OF WHINS.

It was in times like these that whins or gorse came to be used as cattle food. On sheep pasture the rounded bee-hive appearance of the whin bushes, caused by the sheep nibbling away the tender green shoots of the plants as they grow in early spring, shows how much this fare is appreciated. Whins were found to be equally good food for cattle and horses, and the old agricultural manuals contain chemical analyses designed to show that the nutriment of furze was almost equal to that



of clover hay and far exceeded that of turnips. So impressed were farmers with the feeding possibilities of whins that in some parts of Britain the crop was laid down in the ordinary way, the seeds being sown in March and the crop harvested in the autumn of the year following. "The sowing of whins for feeding of cattle," wrote an agriculturist on 6th April 1725, "takes mightily about London just now . . . this improvement comes from Wales, where it has been practised these hundred years."

Aberdeenshire farmers appear not to have taken so mightily to gorse-feeding as the Londoners; probably they limited their gorse harvest to the abundant supply on the rough ground, of which most farms had their share. But the use of the crop entailed on all one particular operation. Sheep browse only upon the tender shoots of the year, but general whin-cutting included the more woody portions of the plant and demanded that the spines should be destroyed if injury to the feeders was to be avoided. So whin-bruising had to be undertaken. In the south this process ultimately led to the development of transportable machinery, iron mills especially designed for the purpose; but in the north it seems to have remained at a more primitive level, leading to the development of a series of simple crushing implements.

These implements have all passed out of regular use, their purpose may soon be forgotten; it is the aim of this paper to set on record the evolution of these bygone agricultural instruments which seem once to have been universally distributed in Aberdeenshire—the whin-mills, or, in the vernacular, "fun-mulls."

## II. THE FLAIL.

On a small farm or croft where only a few cattle were kept, the quantity of whin shoots required would not be great, and no expensive apparatus was required. After protecting his hands with thick gloves, the farmer went to the nearest rough ground, and with a hook or sickle cut from the whin bushes as many young shoots as he needed. These he conveyed to the farm-stead and proceeded to render fit for the animals to eat. The ordinary implement used for threshing the grain crop at the time was the flail, made of two rods jointed together, one being used as the handle, the other as the beater. A modification of this implement served for beating the whins. It was made more effective by the attachment of sharpened strips of hoop iron to the "beater," so that, as blow after blow fell on the mass of whins, the sharp edges of the iron cut them into small pieces, more easily pulped. This was hard work, and could only be performed by an able-bodied man accustomed to the use of the implement.

## III. WOODEN MALLET AND BLOCK.

The use of the wooden mallet and block required much less exertion than the use of the flail. A quantity of shoots was placed on a large block, preferably of wood, though a stone block was sometimes used, and the shoots were beaten with a wooden mallet till all that had been gathered were reduced to pulp. The hammer end of the mallet had one face plain and the other set with edge-wise strips of hoop iron similar to those used on the flail. The whin shoots were beaten first with the iron-shod face to cut them into small pieces, and these were afterwards reduced to pulp by the plain face of the mallet. This work did not require the services of an able-bodied man, but could be performed by the crofter's own children.

The wooden blocks so used appear all to have perished, having been in all likelihood broken up for firewood when no longer required, but a few of the stone blocks still remain. One such stone block is still to be seen at the farm-steading of Upper Mills, about half a mile from Crathes Station, on the Deeside Railway, where it was used rather more than half a century ago by the tenant of the farm, Mr Hunter. It is simply a mass of whinstone with a smooth upper surface on which the whins were laid. A better form of block, provided with sides and back to keep the whins from falling off while being beaten, now lies in a very dilapidated condition in a small belt of plantation near the carpenter's shop at Skene. The slabs which originally formed the back and sides have become displaced and broken, but the older inhabitants still remember its appearance when complete.

## IV. ROLLER TYPE OF WHIN-MILL.

It will be readily understood that the use of the flail, or the block and mallet, was not quite satisfactory. Both methods were slow and tedious, and were inefficient where large quantities of fodder were required. The labour of ox or horse had to be invoked. To meet the greater need, a modification of the ordinary stone roller, with which nearly every farm was provided, was devised. The ordinary roller, being of the same diameter throughout its length, could not revolve in a circular course, and the modification aimed at removing this difficulty. The special whin-roller was made with a taper, the diameter at the outer end being several inches greater than the diameter at the inner end, so that a revolving motion became possible. It was usually somewhere about 4 feet in length and fully a foot in diameter, tapering slightly towards the inner end, where it was attached by a swivel to an iron pin, bedded into an upright stone firmly fixed in the

ground. The larger end was fitted with an arrangement to which a horse or an ox could be harnessed to supply the motive power for rotating the mill-stone. The circular area over which the roller travelled was called the "course," and was paved with flat stones. Upon these the whins were placed, and the horse or ox, yoked to the outer end of the roller, was driven round and round the course for an hour or more until the whin shoots were sufficiently crushed. To assist in reducing them to a pulp, they were now and again sprinkled with water by the man in charge of the operations. By this method a large quantity of whin fodder could be prepared daily, without an undue



Fig. 1. Course for Roller type of Whin-mill at Blairbowie, Chapel of Garioch.

amount of fatigue to the farmer, who had transferred the weight of the task to his beast of burden.

*Blairbowie, Chapel of Garioch* (fig. 1).—So far as I am aware, no whin-mill of the roller type in complete working order is now in existence in Aberdeenshire, though several dismantled ones may be seen. One such is to be found at the small farm of Blairbowie, about a mile south of Chapel of Garioch, and six miles north-west of Inverurie. The paved circular course on which the whins were crushed lies at the entrance to the farm-steading, and is complete, with the exception of the central pillar, to which the narrow end of the roller was attached. This pillar was removed, as it interfered with free ingress to the farm buildings. From the centre where the pillar stood to the inner border of the course measures 4 feet 4 inches, the paved course is 5 feet 8 inches broad, making a radius of 10 feet from the centre to

the outside circumference of the course. The roller stone now stands upright at the gate of the neighbouring field, only a few yards from its original site. It is 3 feet 8 inches long, the inner end having a diameter of 1 foot 6 inches, gradually increasing to 2 feet at the outer end, to which the tackle for rotating the stone was attached. This tackle has now disappeared. The roller is said to have been made by George Davidson, an Inverurie mason, about 1830, and it was in use for many years after that date. It took about an hour and a half to pulp a load of whins with this apparatus.

*Brackla* is situated to the north-west of Benachie, fully a mile

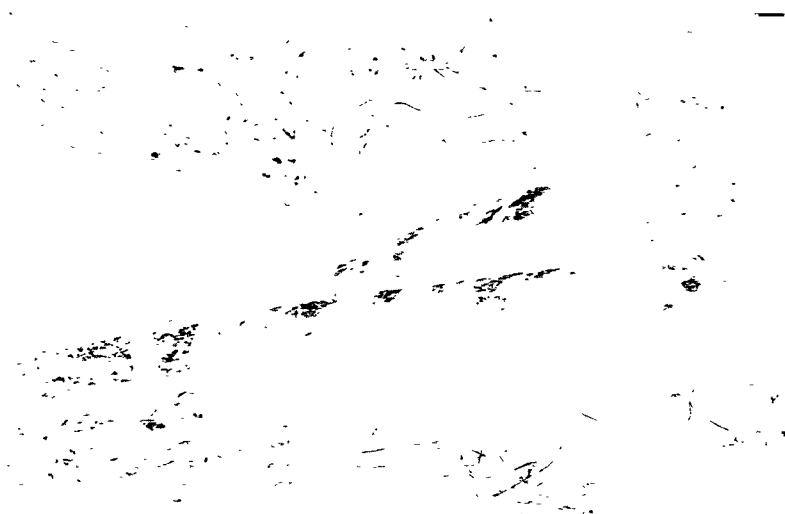


Fig. 2. Roller of Whin-mill, with Centre Stone and Iron Pin, at Brackla, Chapel of Garioch.

south of the village of Auchleven. It contains the remains of what, in its day, must have been one of the best specimens of the roller type of whin-mill. But it has long since been dismantled and the course destroyed, and now only the roller and the central block and pin remain (fig. 2). The roller is 4 feet 1 inch long, and 10 inches in diameter at the narrow end, gradually increasing to 16 inches at the outer or broad end. The central pin is made of iron, 1 foot high, and about an inch thick, and is firmly embedded in a block of granite 13 inches square and 2 feet high.

*Newpark, Parkhill.*—Another roller stone is used as a gate-post on the farm of Newpark, Parkhill, about six miles north of Aberdeen. It is of rather less than the average size, being only 3 feet 9 inches

long, 1 foot 3 inches in diameter at the narrow end, and 1 foot 6 inches at the outer end. Its iron pin is 4 inches long and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter.

*Kirkton of Tyrie.*—A similar roller stone lies in a neglected condition near the farm of Kirkton of Tyrie, and there was until recently one also at Templand, Auchterless, but the latter has now disappeared. Indeed, very few of the roller type of whin-mill now remain. They appear never to have been numerous, and were ultimately superseded by a more efficient form now to be described. Besides, the roller whin-mill, when it ceased to be used for its original purpose, could easily be reduced to a uniform diameter from end to end, and thus begin a new sphere of usefulness as an ordinary field roller.

#### V. THE WHEEL OR GRINDSTONE-SHAPED WHIN-MILL.

This form of whin-mill, if we judge by the numbers that still remain, must have been in much more frequent use than the roller type just described. There are at least half a dozen to be found for every one of the roller type now in existence, and the records of destroyed examples tell the same tale. This is not surprising, however, for the grindstone type did its work more rapidly and effectively than the other, since its crushing power was concentrated on a smaller space. Like the roller form, it consisted essentially of two parts: the crushing stone and the course round which it revolved, but each of these parts differed considerably from the type already described. The crushing stone, as is seen in the accompanying illustrations, was like a large grindstone standing on its edge, so as to revolve like a wheel with a fixed axle. The size varied somewhat, but was usually about 4 feet in diameter, with a thickness of one foot or a little more. The centre of the stone was pierced by a hole, sometimes round, sometimes square, and having a diameter of about 8 or 9 inches. Through this central hole there passed a shaft or axle which was firmly wedged into the stone so that both revolved together. The shaft was usually about 14 feet in length, and the crushing stone was fixed about 10 feet from its inner end and about 4 feet from the outer one, to which the horse employed in driving the mill was harnessed. The inner end of the shaft was attached by means of a swivel to an iron pin fixed firmly in a block of stone, which was sunk a foot or two into the ground to enable it to stand the great strain placed upon it when the mill was in operation.

The course round which the mill-stone revolved also differed from that already described. In the roller type the course was flat, but in the grindstone type there was a groove or trough running round the

course, in which the crushing stone travelled. The bottom and sides of this groove were lined with slabs of flat stone to offer a firm crushing bed. In this space the whin shoots were placed, the horse was harnessed to the outer end of the shaft, and operations commenced. The man in charge of the work was supplied with a watering-can or "rooser," a local term surviving from the French *arrosoir*, and with this he occasionally sprinkled the whins to soften them and make them more easily crushed. The time required for pulping varied somewhat according to the weight of the crusher and the age of the shoots, but about an hour and a half was usually enough to reduce them to a condition in which the cattle could eat them with safety and relish.

*Whitelums, Gartly.*—One of the best known examples of this class of whin-mill is to be seen at the farm of Whitelums, near Gartly Railway Station, about five miles south of Huntly. It is close to the main road, and thus attracts the attention of many travellers. The circular stone has a diameter of 4 feet 2 inches and a thickness of 1 foot. The shaft, of the usual dimensions, is still in place, and the apparatus looks as if it were ready to be used at any time. But this appearance is deceptive: the wood of the shaft is decaying, and the stones with which the grooved course was originally lined have been removed for building purposes, though the groove itself still remains apparently complete.

*Skatebrae, near Badenscoth.*—A much better example is to be found at the farm of Skatebrae, but, as it is not visible from the main road, it is not so well known as that at Whitelums. The Skatebrae example (fig. 3) is of red sandstone, 4 feet 4 inches in diameter and 1 foot 2 inches thick, the circular hole in the centre being made to fit a shaft 9 inches in diameter. The shaft or axle is 14 feet long, the revolving stone being wedged 10 feet from its inner end and 4 feet from its outer one. The course is 15 feet in diameter, and the stone-lined groove into which the whins were placed is 1 foot 10 inches wide and 1 foot deep. The iron pin to which the inner end of the shaft was attached is 6 inches high, and is firmly bedded into a large stone 8 inches in diameter and rising 10 inches above the ground level. This whin-mill was in regular use till about 1890, and is still occasionally worked. In the spring of 1910 it was used for crushing a supply of whins for the farm horses in order to rid them of worms, crushed whins being regarded as a specific for that purpose. It was formerly the custom for neighbouring farmers not having a mill of their own to bring their whin shoots to Skatebrae, where a small charge was made for the use of the mill.

*Bogside, Premnay.*—The whin-mill here is made of grey granite. It is 4 feet 7 inches in diameter and 1 foot 1 inch thick, the shaft hole

which passes through its centre being 1 foot square. The diameter of the course is 22 feet, and the pivot stone in its centre is 1 foot square, and rises 14 inches above the surface of the ground. The iron pin embedded in this stone is 8 inches high and about an inch thick. The circular groove in which the mill-stone revolved is 1 foot 9 inches wide, and is at present 8 inches deep, but as the bottom is overgrown with grass sods its original depth must have been somewhat greater.

*Burrels, Premnay.*—This farm is also known as West Side of Premnay. It contains the remains of a whin-mill of peculiar construction, inasmuch as it possessed two circular stones, a large and a small one, and it is



Fig. 3. Whin-mill in working order at Skatebrae, Auchterless.

the only example known to me where such a contrivance had been adopted. The larger stone (fig. 4) is 3 feet in diameter at one side, increasing to 3 feet 3 inches at the other, and the shaft hole in the centre is 7 inches square. The pivot stone has been removed from its original position, and now lies fully exposed to view. It is 4 feet in length, and varies from 1 foot to 1 foot 10 inches in thickness. To give it power to resist the lateral pressure put upon it when the mill was working, it had been sunk to a depth of 3 feet in the soil, leaving only the upper foot exposed. The iron pin embedded in its upper surface is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and 1 inch thick. The smaller stone has a diameter of only 2 feet and a thickness of  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, its central hole being 7 inches square, so as to fit the same shaft as the larger stone. It was placed on the shaft when it was necessary to give additional weight

to the larger stone in order to hasten the pulping operations. This whin-mill was put to considerable use in 1868, that being a dry year, when the crop was a short one and fodder for the cattle was scarce.

• *Knowhead, Pitmathen, Oyne*.—At this farm there is a crusher stone of grey granite with a diameter of 4 feet and a thickness of 1 foot. The central shaft passage is 7 inches in diameter, but the whole apparatus is lying derelict.

*Broomend, Kintore*, has a mill-stone of reddish granite, 4 feet 3 inches in diameter and 13 inches thick, the hole for the passage of the shaft through its centre being 8 inches square. This stone was

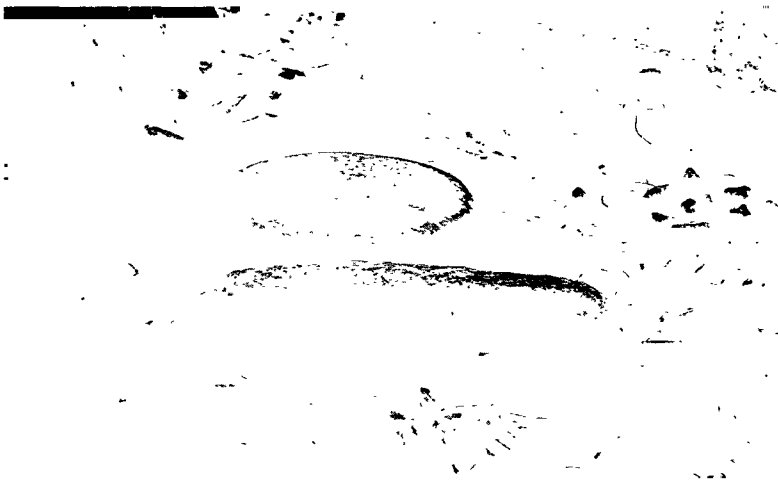


Fig. 4. Grindstone type of Crusher of Whin-mill, and Central Stone, at Burrels, Premnay.

used by my father-in-law, the late Mr Smith, farmer at Broomend previous to the erection of the Paper Mills there in 1858, and was afterwards employed for crushing lime used in the building operations. Since then it has been lying useless near the old farm-steading, the course having been destroyed.

*Menie*.—At the home farm of Menie, near Belhelvie, within a short distance of the sea-coast, there is a whin-mill stone of grey granite having a diameter of 3 feet 11 inches and a thickness of 1 foot 4 inches. The central shaft passage is 9½ inches square. The iron pin to which the shaft was attached is 18 inches long and 1½ inch thick. From this central pin to the inner circumference of the course is 2 feet 10 inches, and the course itself is 2 feet 3 inches wide, so that the total distance across is 5 feet 1 inch. Round the exterior circumference of this course



there is a paved platform 8 feet wide, on which the animal that supplied the motive power travelled. Thus the full width is 13 feet 1 inch and the total diameter 26 feet 2 inches, being several feet wider than the average course. The outer edge of the mill-stone has been much worn by friction against the side of the course.

*Tombeg, Monymusk.*—Both the whin-mill and the course at this farm are in existence, but not in working order, the stone having been removed from its place and dumped down near the farm buildings. It is 4 feet in diameter and 1 foot thick, the central hole being 10 inches square. The course measures 22 feet 8 inches in diameter, and its central pin  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. The groove in which the mill-stone moved is 15 inches wide and 18 inches deep.

*Castle Fraser.*—At the farm of Backhill, Castle Fraser, about two miles from Kemnay Railway Station, a mill-stone of reddish granite lies at the roadside. The stone is 1 foot 4 inches thick, the diameter of the inner circumference being 3 feet 8 inches, gradually increasing to 4 feet 2 inches at the outer one. The central shaft hole is of a rectangular shape, being  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches along one side and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches along the other. The course has been destroyed.

*Easter Skene.*—Lying at the roadside, near the gate of Easter Skene, there is a grey granite mill-stone rather under the average size. It measures only 2 feet 10 inches in diameter and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference. Its original site is unknown, but it was used by Mr M'Combie, the well-known cattle breeder, many years ago, to pack tightly the stones which he used in the formation of the stone drains on his farm. So efficiently was this work done that these drains are still in good working order.

*Bandodle, near Midmar.*—A whin-mill stone of grey granite, 3 feet 9 inches in diameter and 1 foot 3 inches thick, is to be seen lying at the roadside on this farm. The central hole for the shaft is 7 inches square. Though now lying useless and neglected, this mill has done good service in its day, as is shown by the worn edges of the stone. Whins were formerly plentiful on the waste ground in the vicinity of the farm, and several of the tenants took advantage of this, and so were able to keep a larger stock of cattle on the farm than would otherwise have been possible. Indeed, it is said that in later times the tenant was sometimes able to sell part of his turnip crop, and supply its place with whin fodder, upon which the cattle thrived exceedingly well. But labour became more expensive, and a time at last came when the cost of preparing the whins on the farm exceeded the advantage to be gained by using them. They then dropped out of use, and the whin-mill was dismantled and the crusher stone thrown aside, where it now lies.

*Comers, near Midmar.*—In the garden of the merchant's shop at Comers, occupied by Mr Diack, there is preserved a small whin-mill stone of grey granite, 2 feet 6 inches in diameter and 9 inches thick. The shaft hole is circular, and measures 6 inches in diameter. This stone was removed to its present site from the neighbouring farm of Woodhead.

*Upper Broomhill.*—At this farm, which lies to the north of the main road, about half-way between Bannockburn and Craigievar Castle, there is a whin-mill stone of reddish granite similar to that found on Corrennie Hill, in the immediate neighbourhood. The crusher stone has a diameter of 3 feet 10 inches, and is 10 inches thick. The shaft hole is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches square. This mill has been dismantled and the course destroyed.

*Glacks of Culmellie.*—This small farm is situated to the south of Callievar Hill, about five miles north-west of Craigievar Castle. Lying on the inner side of the hedge in a field close to the farm buildings there is a whin-mill crusher stone, the only portion of the apparatus now remaining, the rest having been destroyed many years ago. The tenant of the farm, a widow, who died several years ago at a ripe old age, told me an interesting reminiscence of her youth. She had received the present of a couple of lambs whose mother had died, and which the farmer found himself unable to rear. She gladly accepted the gift, and did her best to rear them successfully. This was comparatively easy as long as the summer lasted and she could get a supply of food for them by cutting grass at the roadside. But, when winter came on, this supply failed her, and she was in difficulties till she asked the advice of the veterinary surgeon. He recommended her to feed them on crushed whins, and upon this she brought them successfully through the winter and spring. Next summer she sold them at a good price, and the money she received proved very useful in helping to buy her wedding outfit.

• *Balnakelly, Cushnie,* lies about two miles south of Glacks of Culmellie. The farm possesses a whin-mill stone and course, but the apparatus is not in working order, and the axle-shaft has disappeared. The crushing stone is of red granite, and is only 3 feet in diameter and 1 foot thick. The shaft hole is 6 inches in diameter. The course has a diameter of 19 feet, and the central iron pin is 1 foot 6 inches high.

*Kildrummy Quarries* are situated fully a mile north of the ancient and well-known Castle of Kildrummy, on Donside, about ten miles west of Alford. A whin-mill crusher stone is used at them as an anchor, to which is fastened a guy rope attached to a crane employed in lifting the stones in the quarry. It is at present hidden from sight by a large quantity of stone chips, so that its dimensions cannot be given.

*Glenkindy House, Donside.*—Just inside an iron railing, beside the pathway near the stables at Glenkindy House, the crushing stone of a whin-mill may be seen. It is of reddish granite, 4 feet 4 inches in diameter and 11 inches thick, and is pierced by a circular hole 8 inches in diameter. Nothing of the original apparatus, except this stone, now remains, the shaft has disappeared, and the course has been broken up.

*Balbridie.*—This farm is situated on the side of the South Deeside Road, about half-way between the Parish Church of Durris and Banchory-Ternan, and two miles south of the railway station at Crathes. It possesses one of the most massive crushing stones of the wheel or grindstone type now in existence; but, unfortunately, the apparatus has been dismantled, and the stone lies useless close to the farm-steading. The crushing stone measures 4 feet 2 inches in diameter at its outer side and a few inches less at the inner one, this being required to allow it to revolve round the course with level pressure. The stone is 1 foot 8 inches thick, and is therefore heavier than such stones usually are. Its central shaft hole has a diameter of 10 inches, this large size being required for the passage of an axle strong enough to move the stone without danger of the strain causing the wood to snap.

*Tillyching, Lumphanan.*—The farm-steading of Tillyching is situated about a mile east of Lumphanan, and a short distance north of the railway. It possesses a whin-mill of the grindstone type, but the apparatus has been neglected, and is not now in working order. The mill-stone is of reddish granite, 4 feet in diameter and 1 foot 7 inches thick, and is pierced by a round shaft hole 8 inches in diameter.

*Brankholm, Lumphanan.*—This place lies about two miles west of Lumphanan Railway Station, and possesses a whin-mill in a complete condition, though the woodwork connected with it is decaying. The crushing stone is of reddish granite, 3 feet 8 inches in diameter and 1 foot 3 inches thick. The shaft passes through a central space 9 inches in diameter, and is correspondingly thick. The course measures 16 feet in diameter, and the groove in which the whins were placed is 2 feet wide and slightly less in depth. Though the apparatus is complete, it has not been in use for many years, and it is doubtful if the wooden shaft, owing to its long exposure to the weather, would now stand the strain of working.

*Wester Roseburn, near Dess.*—This farm is about a mile west of the railway station at Dess, and the whin-mill stands only a short distance north of the railway, from which it is plainly visible. The apparatus is almost complete. The crusher stone is of unusually large size, being 5 feet in diameter and 1 foot 2 inches thick. The central shaft space

is 10 inches square, as a thick, strong axle was needed to move such a heavy stone with safety. The course is 21 feet in diameter, and the groove round which the mill-stone moved is 2 feet wide and 1 foot deep. The central iron pin is 1 foot 6 inches high. This apparatus was formerly used for crushing the lime used in building the neighbouring railway viaduct, and when that work was completed it was purchased for a small sum by the tenant of Wester Roseburn. He removed it to the farm, and re-erected it there, for the purpose of crushing whins, but it did not prove so good a bargain as he anticipated, for it was found difficult to work; so it has not been used for many years.

*North Behenties, Leochel-Cushnie.*—The whin-mill formerly used at this farm has now been broken up, the course destroyed, and the crushing stone removed. It is now used as the centre piece of the threshing-mill course.

*Shevado.*—There is a very good example of a whin-mill at the farm of Shevado, about a mile south of Brucklay Castle and three miles north of New Deer. It was originally employed in the neighbourhood of New Aberdour, from which district it was brought by Mr Dingwall Fordyce, and re-erected on his farm at Shevado. The central pivot-pin, shaft, and crushing stone are complete and in good order, but the course is awanting. The apparatus is of the usual dimensions, but is now regarded more as a curiosity than as a useful farm implement.

I am informed by Mr J. Graham Callander that, in 1908, he saw a stone of the grindstone type lying at the spot marked "Old Windmill" on the Ordnance Survey map, about 250 yards north-west of the farmstead of Mains, Boyndlie, in the parish of Tyrie. The error on the map has doubtlessly arisen through the confusion of the word "whin-mill" with "wind-mill" by a surveyor who was familiar with the latter only.

There are, or were till recently, remains of whin-mills at Hill of Fetternear; Wellside, Auchleven; Mains of Leslie; Little Whitecross, Chapel of Garioch; Scurdarg, near Gartly; Waulkmill, near Parkhill Railway Station; Waterside of Inverebrie; and Frosty Nib, about three miles from Strichen; but as they are all of a construction similar to those already described, it seems unnecessary to give further details concerning them. From *Scottish Notes and Queries*, April 1925, p. 72, I am enabled to add the following examples to my list:—One at Berryhill, Memsie, parish of Rathen; a fragment of one built into the back wall of a house in the village of Strichen; another at the roadside near the farm of Bogenjohn, and one built into a dyke at Bransbog, both in the parish of Strichen; and one at Mains of Whitehills, New Deer. Dr W. Douglas Simpson also has drawn my attention to one, 3 feet

3½ inches in diameter and 6 inches thick, lying against the inside of the south wall of the Kirkyard of Essie, and to another of rather larger size at Glack of Essie, the latter having been used in quite recent times. Doubtless others are lying in out-of-the-way places, neglected and forgotten, and so have escaped notice, while many others have been broken up for building purposes. Still, the numbers that have been traced are sufficient to show how extensively these whin-mills were used once upon a time in Aberdeenshire. It must not be supposed, however, that their use was confined to times of scarcity. Though the hardships of famine years led to the adoption of whins as cattle food, it was soon found that they could be profitably used in ordinary seasons also. They were generally believed to have about double the food value of an equal weight of turnips, they cost the farmer nothing beyond the labour needed to cut and pulp them, and they enabled him to keep an extra stirk or two on his farm—a welcome addition to his often scanty property. Children, moreover, left school at an early age, and the crofter could, both profitably and cheaply, employ his family to assist him in working the croft, till they were ready to go out to ordinary farm service.

#### VI. CAUSES OF THE DISUSE OF WHINS AS CATTLE FOOD.

Times changed. Improved methods of farming, a proper rotation of crops, and the extensive use of lime and artificial manures, so increased the fertility of the soil that a much greater supply of cattle food could be grown and stored for use in winter and spring, and thus the advantage of using whins became less. At the same time, farm-servants' wages rose and labour generally became more expensive, so that the cost of preparing the whins came at last to exceed their food value, and they gradually dropped out of use. This economic change occurred not only at Bandonie, as already mentioned, but all over Aberdeenshire, and few farmers of the present day have had any experience of preparing whins for cattle food. Nor does it seem probable that they should again be used as extensively as formerly, since much of the waste land on which they grew has been brought under cultivation. But if such an unlikely event should ever come to pass, one may be sure that the old forms of whin-mill will not be employed, but that more compact, efficient, and labour-saving machinery will be used in pulping the whin shoots.

## IV.

## SOME ANCIENT CROSSES IN DUMBARTONSHIRE AND ADJOINING COUNTIES. BY A. D. LACAILLE. F.S.A.Scot.

## INCISED CROSS ON ROCK, CRAIGMADDIE MUIR.

Instances occur in Scotland of incised cruciform figures associated with other markings on living rock-surfaces. These are chiefly found in caves, the Fifeshire and Arran examples being well known. Such scribings belong to the early Christian period. Sculpturings of a similar class were found a few years ago in Tiree, near ecclesiastical remains,<sup>1</sup> but the Tiree markings differ from those in the Fife and Arran caves in that they are cut on rock-surfaces exposed to the open air.

Pre-Christian crosses have been found in Scotland; probably the finest example is at Cochno, Dumbartonshire.<sup>2</sup> The sculpturing is set within an oval, and is accompanied by cups and rings sculptured on a prepared rock-surface. Roughly, or somewhat irregularly-shaped, cruciform figures occur on Craigmaddie Muir, in the parish of Baldernock, a few miles north of Glasgow. One found by Mr Ludovic M'L. Mann, F.S.A.Scot., forms part of a complicated assemblage of carvings on a rock platform north-west of "The Auld Wife's Lift." Another good example exists on the muir, and was detected by the writer while walking in company of Mr Mann and Mr Thomas Cree in April 1924. Near the easternmost limit of the same stretch of ground we came on a small irregular cross sculptured on an outcrop of indurated carboniferous sandstone. We bared the turf in its proximity, and found additional markings. The complete group consists of the cruciform figure, a small cup-shaped hollow, a small serpent-like carving, and another like the impression of the right foot of an adult above the medium height, all fairly well preserved.

A footprint in conjunction with cup-marks is not of uncommon occurrence in Scottish prehistoric sculpturings. Footprints are found with the cross at Cochno, already referred to. An example of an incised cross associated with other markings was recently found cut on the wall of St Kieran's Cave, near Campbeltown. The serpent occurs in the Campbeltown group, but it is thought that the sculpturings, which are enclosed in a rough circle, belong to the early part of this era.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lvi. pp. 118-26.

<sup>2</sup> John Bruce, *History of Kilpatrick*, p. 323.

## THREE CROSSES AT LUSS, DUMBARTONSHIRE.

The present church of Luss was erected in 1875. It succeeds a building opened for public worship in 1771. The older structure was built on the site of a pre-Reformation Chapel, which, from an old print in the manse, shown me by the Rev. Alex. Slater Dunlop, B.D., was a rectangular building with Gothic features of a very plain nature. A few yards from the eastern end of the church are the remains of a wall of rough stone masonry. It is impossible to say with any certainty to what period the ruins belong. The 6-inch Ordnance Survey Chart (Dumbartonshire X., S.-E.) merely refers to the remains as "Church ruins." The sacredness of the site—a ridge on the north bank of the River Luss, close to where it flows into Loch Lomond—goes back to an early phase of Christianity, and is further indicated by some relics to which I shall refer.

St Kessog, the tutelar saint of the parish, is supposed to have suffered death, and to have been buried, at Luss in the early part of the sixth century.<sup>1</sup> His reputed effigy is preserved at Rossdhu House, Luss.<sup>2</sup>

In the churchyard are interesting sepulchral monuments, some sculptured and of mediæval and early post-Reformation times. In the older category are two stone coffins.<sup>3</sup> Near the west gate is one of the rare recumbent stones termed "hog-backed." The Luss example is richly ornamented with sculptured work.<sup>4</sup>

So far as can be ascertained, the most ancient Christian monuments in the churchyard at Luss are three crosses. Two of these are carved slabs. The larger slab (fig. 1) was found at the south-eastern end of the churchyard, its existence being revealed by cutting away the thick brushwood beneath the old lime trees crowning the ridge near the river. It is a plain slab of whinstone, 4 feet 1 inch by 1 foot 2 inches, in thickness varying from 1 inch at the broken and rough ends to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches about the middle. The face, on which is incised to the depth of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch a plain and much weathered Latin cross, has been dressed. The smaller slab (fig. 2), of red sandstone, measures 2 feet 5 inches in length; its maximum breadth is 18 inches, and its thickness, which is practically uniform, does not exceed  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The arms of the incised Latin cross ( $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep) which the slab bears are almost equal in length. In the space between each arm is a cup cut to the depth of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. All the markings on this stone are well preserved.

<sup>1</sup> *Old Statistical Account*, vol. xvii. p. 264.

<sup>2</sup> *New Statistical Account*, vol. viii. p. 161.

<sup>3</sup> *Old Statistical Account*, vol. xvii. p. 264, and Joseph Irving, *History of Dumbartonshire*, p. 379.

<sup>4</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xix. p. 418.

The third, of grey sandstone, is a cross of a very peculiar type. When first seen by me it lay near the ruins referred to. After the monument had been propped up and cleared of lichen and moss, it was noticed that it was sculptured on both sides and more profusely than was expected. It has been a free standing cross, and now measures 2 feet 11 inches in length. The shaft, rectangular in section, with bevelled edges, tapers slightly from the base, where it is 13 inches across by 7 inches, to 12 inches by 6 inches at the lower part of the head. On one side, centrally situated, 10 inches from the base of the

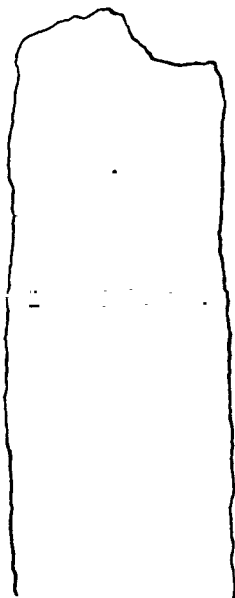


Fig. 1. Cross-slab at Luss.  
(1 1/2.)

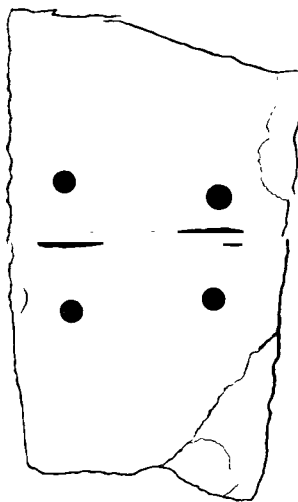


Fig. 2. Cross-slab at Luss.  
(1 1/2.)

stone, is a cup  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. From the base of the head to the top, where it is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, the head measures 1 foot 3 inches; across, it is but half an inch more. In the centre of the head is a diamond-shaped perforation, the sides being about 3 inches in length. The cross is equal-armed. In the interspaces between the arms are counter sunk circular areas from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 inches in diameter and varying from  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in depth. One of these bears on its surface a semicircular gutter. There are also traces of narrow gutters near the edges of the hollows. Small sculpturings exist near the centre of the lower part of the head. Two clearly-defined but shallow channels lead into the central perforation from a point near the top of the cross. The peripheral



edging of the head consists of nine hemispherical crenelations. The other face has a shallow, medial, vertical gutter,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch broad, running from the perforation to within 4 inches of the base.

One of the upper interspaces between the arms differs from its companions. Its centre is raised, and instead of a general counter-sinking there is only a narrow semicircular gutter. The three hollows vary in depth from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

To Lieut.-Colonel Donald C. Cameron, R.A.S.C., F.S.A.Scot., much praise is due for having drawn the attention of the Society to the existence of the early crosses in Luss churchyard. In recording these monuments I received valuable assistance from the Rev. Alex. Slater Dunlop and Mr Henry Lamond, Luss.

#### TWO SCULPTURED SLABS AT ROSENEATH.

Roseneath, as an ecclesiastical site, is extremely ancient. St Modan, who came from Ardhattan, is said to have died here in the sixth century. In the Aberdeen Breviary the Commemoration of St Modan is on 4th February.<sup>1</sup>

The Parish Church of Roseneath, in Dumbartonshire, is situated about 100 yards east of the old cemetery where are the ivy-covered ruins of the eighteenth-century place of worship which succeeded a pre-Reformation structure. In the graveyard was found, some forty years ago, a cross-slab with interlaced sculpturings. A description of this monument is in the *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xvi. pp. 72-3, and it is illustrated in *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, p. 453. The relic is placed in an erect position on the sill of one of the windows of the ruined church, and is supported at the back by an iron bar. In the next window to the west are two hitherto unrecorded slabs of grey sandstone. They are securely held up in the same manner as the first. Like it, being in so exposed a position, they are becoming weathered.

The larger slab is 5 feet 4 inches in length and 1 foot  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches in width at the top, tapering to 1 foot  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches at the base. The stone is of the uniform thickness of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The edges are bevelled 5 inches at the top, and taper to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches at the base, and are decorated with plain rope moulding.

The smaller slab measures 4 feet 6 inches in length by 1 foot 6 inches in breadth at the top, and tapers to 11 inches at the base; it is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. In the upper part is sculptured an incised simple cross cut  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep. At the base of the cross is the sculpturing of a sword cut to the depth of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch. The carving of the discoidal pommel of the

<sup>1</sup> Rev. R. H. Storey, D.D., *St Modan of Roseneath*, p. 51.

weapon impinges on the left-hand corner of the base of the shaft of the cross, and the blade extends to the bottom of the slab. Under the straight cross-guards of the sword, which extend to the edges of the stone, on either side of the blade, and near the edges of the stone, are a large D and traces of another letter. These markings are modern, and somewhat impair the appearance of this interesting monument.

The sword, in form, partly resembles the Sword of Battle Abbey, now in the Royal Scottish Museum.<sup>1</sup>

#### SCULPTURED STONE AT DUMGOYACH, STRATHBLANE, STIRLINGSHIRE.

In June 1923 I spent an afternoon with Mr Ludovic M'L. Mann examining some antiquities near Duntreath Castle, Strathblane.

In conversation with Mr Paul, Dumgoyach, we were shown a stone, measuring 2 feet by 1 foot 4 inches by 10 inches, which was used as a cobble under a tap fixed to the wall of an outhouse near the back door of the dwelling-house, but upon its surface are two small and regular Latin crosses graduated in size, the longer arm in each case being placed along the longer axis of the stone. The larger, which is nearest the top of the slab, measures only  $2\frac{5}{16}$  inches in length and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch across the arms, and the other, which is almost in alignment,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch farther down the stone, measures  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch in length and  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in breadth. On scrutinising the surface closely, eight small, shallow cup-marks were detected.

Since visiting the place, I have been told that the stone was originally near a well which was covered in some years ago. Water from the well is now drawn off by the tap referred to. At Blanefield, two miles east of Dumgoyach, there is a spring called St Kessog's Well.

Built in at the corner of a building opposite the water-tap are two small stones, each of which bears small cup-marks very similar to those on the cross-stone.

#### CROSS NEAR BARNAKILL, ARGYLL.

Half a mile north of Dunardry Locks, Crinan Canal, and a few yards to the east of the rough track leading to the farm of Upper Barnakill, in the parish of Kilmartin, a granite pillar, 3 feet 11 inches in height, 16 inches broad, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, stands loosely between two boulders of a ruined drystone wall. The west face bears a cross with small transverse channels at the ends of the arms (fig. 3). This symbol is cut to the depth of nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. It was noted that at the

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. x. p. 462.

base of the cross were other carvings, which, on being cleared of lichen, were seen to be Hiberno-Saxon minuscules. The cross and the last

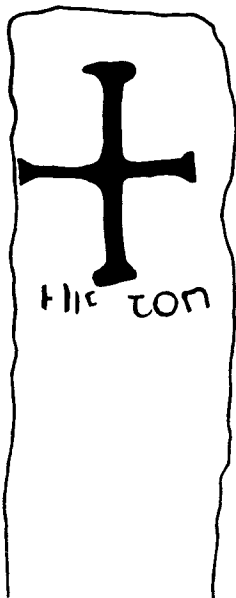


Fig. 3. Cross-slab at Barnakill. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ .)

three letters (reading from the left) are in excellent preservation, but the first three letters seem incomplete. In 1921 a very similar cross was found on a slab at Hynish House, Tiree.<sup>1</sup> It is doubtful whether the Barnakill monument occupies its original position, but there are some ancient sites in the vicinity. About 200 yards south of the cross-stone, a little to the west of the roadway, is a small mound, 5 feet high and 15 feet in diameter at the base, which is doubtless a burial cairn. To the north-east of the cairn are the grass-covered ruins of a small circular building, 10 feet in diameter, apparently of great antiquity.

#### MONUMENTS AT ACH-NA-CILLE, OIBMORE, LOCH SWEEN, NORTH KNAPDALE, ARGYLL.

On the wooded peninsula formed by Loch Sween and Caol Scotnish is the ruined steading of Oibmore, or Oibmore Campbell, as it figures on an estate map dated 1828. Not far to the south, at a part not more than a quarter of a mile in width, and about 80 feet above sea-level, is an irregular setting of stones of green schist, some erect, but the greater number prostrate. This is the old burial-place, Ach-na-Cille.

From its appearance the site seems to be of a greater antiquity than indicated by the symbol of Christianity sculptured on some of the stones. Tree-felling and dragging operations have done much to destroy the outline of the place. A survey is impracticable, as near at hand is an old well or spring, which, no longer finding a ready outflow, has formed a morass now extending to a part of the burial-place. Here, as at so many places, is the association of a sacred site with a spring of water.

Ach-na-Cille is about 25 yards east of the track, and the site could be traced by an erect stone at the side of the path.

Captain T. P. White, R.E., writing in 1875, *Archæological Sketches, Knapdale*, pp. 102-3, pl. xlv. Nos. 3 and 4, says that "This most interesting relic is almost lost where it is, yet it is so far useful in its present position as marking the site of what is supposed to have been a very ancient burying-ground, the spot being named Ach-na-Cille. This is the

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lvi, p. 125.

only stone left; indeed, all trace of the 'Kil' was ploughed up, I heard, before the ground was put under wood."

Captain White was evidently misinformed, as the site of Ach-na-Cille could never have been an arable one. The misapprehension, under which he laboured, doubtless arose through the fact that the remains of the burial-ground are at some distance from the bridle-path, from which they are hidden by a few trees.

This stone and two other relics, which were found on the occasion of my first visit to Oibmore, were in certain danger of destruction from tree-felling operations about to be renewed.

Through the generosity of the proprietors, Colonel E. D. Malcolm, C.B., of Poltalloch, and Sir Ian Malcolm, K.C.M.G., to whom was suggested the advisability of removing the three stones to a place of safety, these were presented to the Corporation of Glasgow Art Galleries at Kelvingrove.

The monument, which stood beside the roadway, measures 3 feet 8 inches in length, its maximum width and thickness being 1 foot 10½ inches and 3½ inches respectively. On one face is incised a cross within a double circle, while there are cut circular hollows at the intersection of the arms and also small bosses. On the other face, which is not so well preserved, can be traced a large and much weathered cross, two small Latin crosses, and symbols of different designs, all incised, as well as circular cavities, two raised bars and nine large bosses.

These sculpturings present the rare combination of raised and incised symbols. Both sides of this stone are well figured by Captain White.

The second stone is a plain slab, 2 feet 4 inches long, 1 foot 2½ inches wide, and 4 inches thick, with a deeply cut out and perfectly preserved Latin cross (fig. 4). The cross much resembles one found on a slab at Luss (fig. 1).

The third stone is a fragment of a small monument. Incised designs are sculptured on one side. The markings are those of a cross, the head within a circle, and triangular figures cut along the shaft. The drawing, reproduced from a rubbing (fig. 5), shows the carvings, a suggested symmetrical restoration of the stone with complete scheme of sculpturings being delineated by dotted lines.

Many visits were made to Ach-na-Cille, and all the stones were carefully examined after the earth and mossy growth had been removed from them. The long search resulted in the finding of three additional

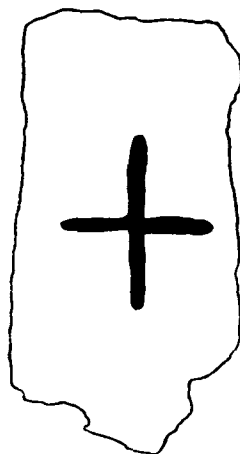


Fig. 4. Cross-slab at Oibmore. (r.f.)

slabs, each bearing an incised cross. Only the actual sculptured face in each case is prepared.

The finest and largest of these stones is 4 feet 6 inches in length and 1 foot 7½ inches in breadth at its widest part (fig. 6). In thickness it varies from 2 inches at the base to 9 inches at the top. The incised cross is nearly ¼ inch deep, and is in perfect preservation. Each arm has a T-shaped ending, in this respect resembling crosses found in the

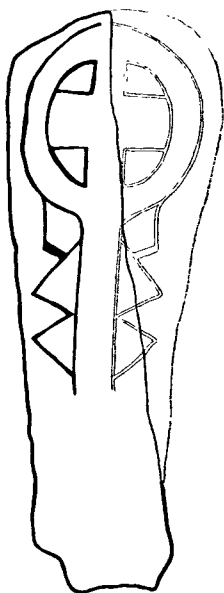


Fig. 5. Cross-slab at Oibmore, Argyll. (1½.)

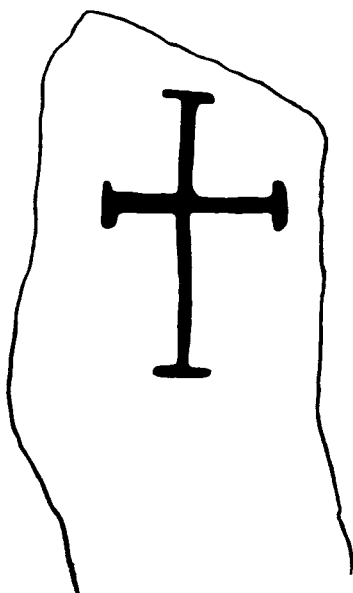


Fig. 6. Cross-slab at Oibmore. (1½.)

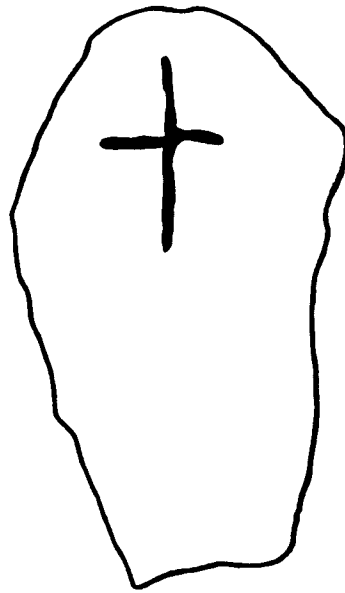


Fig. 7. Cross-slab at Oibmore. (1½.)

Isle of Man<sup>1</sup> and Tiree.<sup>2</sup> This type of cross occurs carved on a slab from Eilean Mór, and now in the National Museum, Edinburgh.<sup>3</sup>

Another monument, 3 feet 8 inches in length, 1 foot 9¼ inches in breadth, and 8 inches thick, bears a small and rude Latin cross on one face cut to the depth of ¼ inch (fig. 7).

The remaining slab measures 1 foot 11½ inches in length, 13½ inches in width, and 5 inches in thickness. No attempt seems to have been made by the sculptor to make symmetrical the Latin cross roughly cut on it to the depth of ¼ inch.

The type of small incised cross on the two stones last referred to

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lv. p. 257.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. lvi. p. 125.

<sup>3</sup> *Early Christian Monuments*, p. 402, fig. 419.

I had already found, in April 1923, on a slab near the ruins of St Fillan's Chapel, Strathfillan, Perthshire.<sup>1</sup>

Mr J. G. Mathieson, the factor of the Poltalloch estates, tells me that Ach-na-Cille, with its remaining monuments, will now be protected by fencing. I understand, too, that it will be scheduled as an Ancient Monument.

About 200 yards east of Ach-na-Cille, on the shore of Loch Sween,

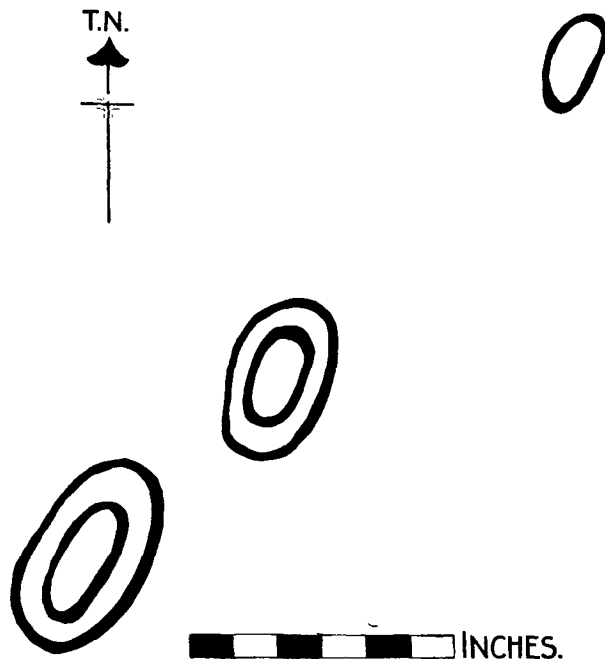


Fig. 8. Ring-marked Boulder at Oibmore.

below the vertical cliff, is a quadrate granite boulder 7 feet long, 4 feet broad, and 4 feet high. Its longer axis is almost due north and south. On its somewhat table-like top, which is almost submerged at high tide, Mr Donald Campbell, Poltalloch, saw the carvings of two ovals twenty years ago. On clearing away the seaweed overgrowing the northern end of the boulder a third oval was noticed (fig. 8). These ovals are graduated in size, the middle one being of intermediate dimensions. An odd feature of the two larger figures is that each encloses a smaller one of precisely the same shape.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 124.

Mr Campbell told me that the markings, although well preserved, were more distinct when he first saw them.

I wish to record that I am indebted to Mr Campbell for the assistance given me while engaged in research in the Poltalloch district. •

#### SCULPTURED STONE AT KILMUN, ARGYLL.

In early Christian times Kilmun was a place of so much importance that its influence was felt in all the Cowal district of Argyll.

Some controversy exists as to the derivation of the name "Kilmun," but I am informed by Professor W. J. Watson that the name implies the cell or church of Mundu or Munnu or Munna for Mo-Fhindu, an affectionate form of Fintén or Fintán.

Of a Celtic chapel no vestige remains, but there stands at the western end of the Parish Church, erected in 1841, a square tower of considerable height. In the *New Statistical Account of Scotland*, vol. vii. p. 611, it is stated that this tower formed part of a collegiate church founded in 1442.

A few feet to the south of the present church can be traced the foundations of the old building. Surrounding the church, to the north of which is attached the well-known mausoleum of the Argyll family, is the old cemetery, the eastern limit of which is the small stream, Allt-na-Struthlaig.

I examined the stones in the graveyard. It would seem that, as in the case of the burial-ground at St Fillan's Chapel, near Crianlarich, slabs or flagstones from the floor of the ancient church have been used to cover some of the graves.<sup>1</sup> On clearing away the heavy growth of grass and moss on one of these, which is broken in two, I noticed the carving of a long sword with short depressed quillons.

Three yards from the south-east corner of the church a schistose stone attracted my attention. Vegetation had overgrown the greater part of the stone to such an extent as to make the task of clearing away the growth a difficult one. On the accumulation of vegetable matter and soil being removed, interesting markings were revealed. Those consist of a rudely incised Latin cross with traces of a small cup at the lower end of the cross and a channel on the other side, near the edge of the stone, and parallel to the longer arm of the cross, which is placed along the longer axis of the stone. A feature of the cross is that the terminals of the shorter arm are not the same, one being square and the other rounded, thus showing a similarity to an incised cross found on a rock outcrop near Kirkapoll Chapel in Tiree. With the Tiree example also occur cup-marks and a

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 124.

channel, but the channel in this case is placed on the opposite side of the cross.<sup>1</sup>

The stone in Kilmun churchyard measures 3 feet in length, 1 foot 2 inches in width, and 6 inches in thickness. The sculpturings are all badly weathered, but it is gratifying to learn that the Rev. A. B. Harper, to whom I reported the find, has promised to have the relic, the only one of this nature heard of in the district, removed to cover, inside the church.

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MONDAY, 9th March 1925.

SIR ANDREW N. AGNEW, BART., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

ALEXANDER HUTTON ANDERSON, M.A., Donaldson's Hospital.

PETER A. CONACHER, Director of Education, Forfarshire Education Authority, Newtonbank, Forfar.

A. BASHALL DAWSON, 33 Royal Terrace.

DONALD MACKAY, Member of the Scottish Land Court, Allermuir House, Colinton.

IAN R. H. STEWART, 28 Evelyn Road, Wimbledon, Surrey.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By A. BASHALL DAWSON, 33 Royal Terrace.

Fire-plate of tinned metal of the Caledonian Insurance Company. The plate is oval, and shows a thistle, with the word CALEDONIAN on a scroll below.

Fire-plate of cast iron of the Friendly Insurance Society of Edinburgh; it is rectangular in shape, measures 7 inches in length and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches in height, and shows two clasped hands above the word FRIENDLY.

Fire-plate of thin sheet-copper of the Scottish Union Insurance Company, coloured in black, gold, and red; it is circular with a crown

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lvi. p. 124.



above and a fleur-de-lis below, the circular part measuring 9 inches in diameter; in the centre is a lion rampant, and the words SCOTTISH UNION 1824 round the edge.

Golf "driver," made by H. Philp, St Andrews; the head has been repaired. Clubs by this maker have been extensively imitated, but this one has been submitted to experts in St Andrews and passed as genuine by them.

(2) By ROBERT KINGHORN, F.S.A.Scot.

Rim fragment of a large Cinerary Urn found at Scremerston Hill, Northumberland.

(3) By A. J. H. EDWARDS, F.S.A.Scot., Assistant Keeper.

Sandstone Sinker, measuring  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches, being an oval pebble with a longitudinal groove all round, found in a hut-circle at Freswick Links, Caithness. (See previous communication by Mr Edwards.)

Objects from a kitchen-midden at Freswick Links:—Whorl of cetacean bone, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter and  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch in thickness; Bone Borer,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches long; Worked Flint,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, of grey colour and crescentic form; six fragments of dark hand-made Pottery.

(4) By Sir JAMES ADAM, C.B.E., F.S.A.Scot., King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer.

Tally-stick, measuring  $12\frac{7}{8}$  inches long, the two halves complete, from the Exchequer Office, Edinburgh.

(5) By A. NEWLANDS, Divisional Engineer, London, Midland, and Scottish Railway Company, Crewe Station.

Fragments of Mountings of indeterminate character, and a Chain, all of copper or bronze, very much corroded, found after the cloud-bursts of 1914 and 1923 in the bed of the Baddengorm Burn at Carrbridge, some considerable distance below the watershed, but not adjacent to any existing roads. They consist of fragments of a thin rectangular plate,  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches broad, with rivet-holes in several places round the edge, each of the two larger pieces having a small bow-shaped handle with fish-tail ends fixed by small rivets; a strip of thin metal,  $6\frac{7}{8}$  inches long, bent double longitudinally, terminating in a pear-shaped bulb at one end, and showing rivets and rivet-holes along one edge; three fragments of a chain with S-shaped links, two links being combined by interlooping at right angles, and the adjoining links being connected in the ordinary fashion.

- (6) By JAMES S. RICHARDSON, F.S.A.Scot., Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland.

Five worked Flints from the sands at Gullane, East Lothian, all covered with a whitish patina:—(1) Knife, measuring  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches long and  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch broad, with rude dressing along one edge, of yellowish colour; (2) semicircular Scraper of grey colour, and measuring  $\frac{1\frac{3}{8}}{1\frac{9}{16}}$  inch by  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch; (3) rude Scraper, measuring  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, of yellowish colour; (4) part of a Scraper, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, of yellowish colour; (5) Core, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch, of greyish colour.

- (7) By JOHN A. FAIRLEY, 3 Barnton Gardens, Davidson's Mains.

Sugar Cutter of steel, with brass standard and wooden base.

- (8) By JOHN HAMILTON, F.S.A.Scot.

Hoard of Bronze Objects, consisting of three penannular Necklets, six penannular Armlets, three Rings originally conjoined, and a Razor, found in 1866 among some large fragments of rock lying at the foot of a precipice at the Braes of Gight, near Methlick, Aberdeenshire:—

Penannular Necklet (fig. 1, No. 1), measuring  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches by 6 inches in external diameter, the ring, which is formed of a rod of circular section,  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch thick, having expanding terminals with a loop at each end, from which is hung a ring,  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch in diameter; round the circumference of the necklet, at intervals varying from  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to 1 inch, measured from centre to centre, are eighteen loops, in each of which has been a ring,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in diameter; three of the loops are broken, as also are two of the rings; fifteen of the latter remain in their original positions, two are detached, and one is wanting; there is a break in the ring of the necklet 4 inches from one end.

Two penannular Necklets (fig. 1, Nos. 2 and 3), measuring  $7\frac{1}{8}$  inches by  $6\frac{3}{8}$  inches, and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $5\frac{3}{8}$  inches in diameter, formed of a plain ring of circular section,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, with expanding terminals and a loop at each end, from which a ring,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter, has been suspended; the first necklet retains both of the terminal rings, but one is wanting in the second.

Six penannular Armlets (fig. 1, Nos. 4 to 9), measuring  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches,  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches,  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches,  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches,  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, and  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches by 2 inches in external diameter, with slightly expanding terminals; the second has a break in the ring and the last wants one of

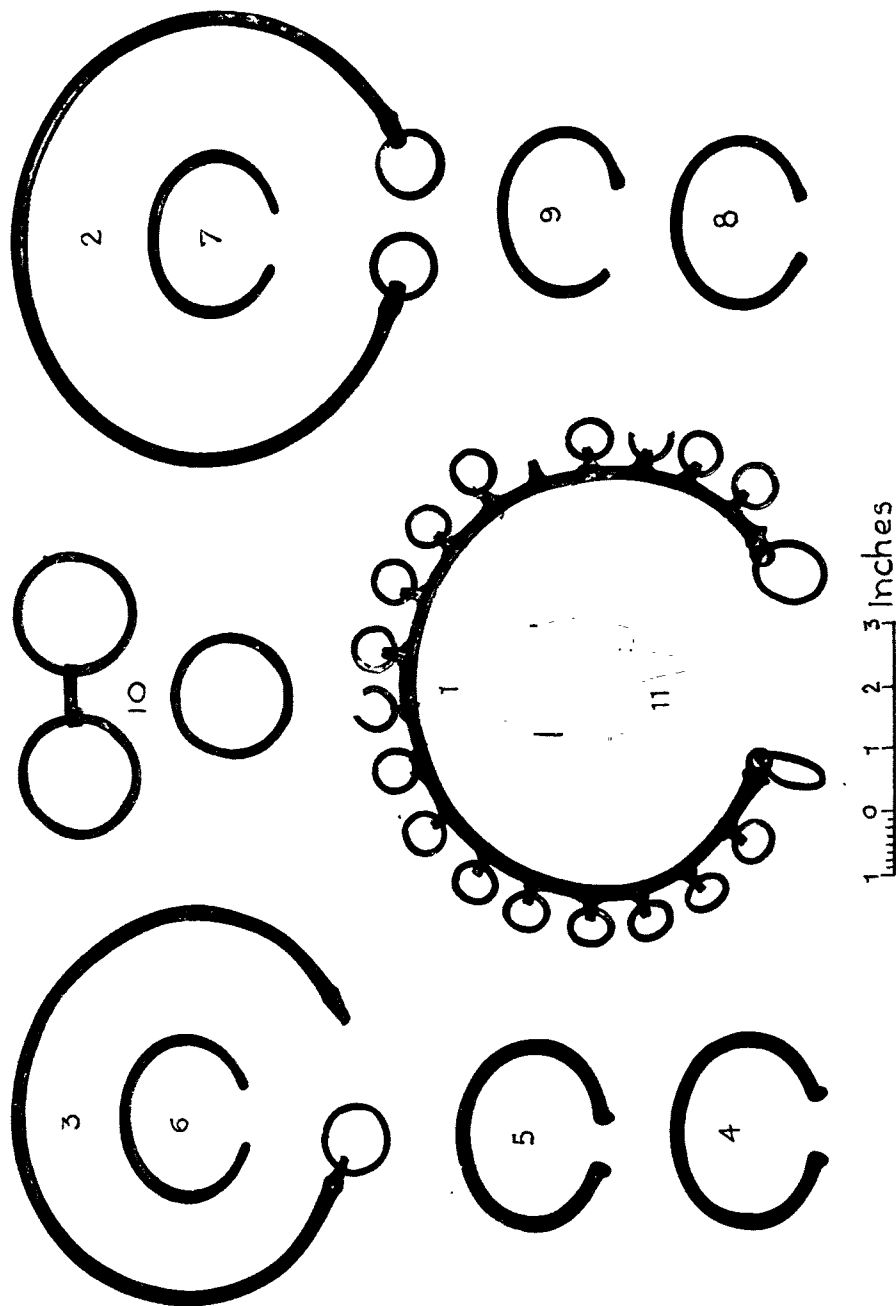


Fig. 1. Bronze Objects found at Braces of Gight, Aberdeenshire.

the terminals; the rings of the armlets are not quite circular or oval in section, as they are hammered flat in places.

Object consisting of three flattened oval Rings, measuring 2 inches in external diameter, and originally connected to each other by a thin flat band,  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch broad, the ends curved round the rings (fig. 1, No. 10); one of these bands is missing.

Razor (fig. 1, No. 11), measuring  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in total length, with a flat wedge-shaped tang,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, and an oval bifid blade, now  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch broad; the edges of the instrument are ragged and broken, but the V-shaped notch at the top is clearly indicated; there has been no perforation below the notch.

The patina on the second necklet is dark green, smooth and glossy over a considerable part, but on the other objects the patina is patchy.

The discovery of the hoard is recorded in *Proceedings*, vol. xxv. p. 135, where it is stated that only one of the rings on the circumference of the first-mentioned necklet was missing. This is borne out by the illustration shown in fig. 2 on p. 136 of the volume mentioned.

The following Donations to the Library were also intimated:—

(1) By JOHN A. FAIRLEY, 3 Barnton Gardens.

Bibliography of Robert Fergusson, with a Prefatory Note by the Donor. Glasgow, 1915.

Dougal Graham and the Chap-Books by and attributed to him, with a Bibliography by the Donor. Glasgow, 1914.

(2) By JAMES MACKENZIE, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

A New Life and Vindication of Robert Burns.

(3) By WILLIAM A. TOD, F.S.A.Scot.

The History of the Clan Neish or MacNish. By David MacNish, M.A., M.B., and the Donor.

The following Communications were read:—

## I.

SOME OLD SCOTTISH DANCES. BY A. STANLEY CARRUTHERS,  
A.C.A., F.S.A.Scot.

During the last six years I have been collecting records relating to several families of the name of Carruthers, and in connection with this I recently had the privilege, through the kindness of the present owner, the Rev. W. Mitchell-Carruthers, M.A., of Kingham Hill, Kingham, Oxfordshire, of looking through the Holmains Charter Chest. Amongst the many old charters, details of which were published in the *Historical Manuscripts Commission's Sixth Report*, Appendix, and other documents relating to this old Border family, I came across an old diary kept evidently by several persons, and having entries between, approximately, the years 1675 to 1750. The entries chiefly relate to births, deaths, and marriages, and there is ample proof of the interest taken in astrology at this date. Of greater interest to the general public, however, was a note-book, similar in size and shape to the present-day penny or twopenny note-book, containing six or seven pages, closely written, of instructions for dances. In this book there are also "Rules for pronouncing y<sup>e</sup> French."

On reading through these pages relating to the old dances of Scotland, it occurred to me that it would probably be of interest to the present generation to know of many dances, which I feel sure are now lost in antiquity, and also have details as to their execution.

I have been unable to ascertain the date of the entries. One of the dances is called "The Old Way of Killie Crankie," and it would seem therefore that they are not earlier than 1689. On the other hand, the last of the male line of Carruthers of Holmains was born in 1731, and he had several children born from 1764 onwards. The writing does not seem to be that of the same person, though at first appearance it is very similar. In my opinion the details as to the dances were noted some time about 1710 to 1720. George Carruthers of Holmains had a large family of children growing up about this time, and it would seem to me that possibly these instructions had been written for their benefit. This is purely suppositionary, however, and no definite date can be given.

The following is an exact copy of the entries relating to the dances.

## GREEN SLEEVES.

First Back to B & turn down one pair, B to Back again and turn round, then arms with the 3d Woman & turn her, then your partner then reel first with the Women, then with the men, then sett & turn down the third man, & she turns up: sett again & turn round the 2d woman upwards, & she turns round the 2d man downwards, & so till they fall in betwixt the second & third pair.

## CALD KALE.

*1st Part.*

Cross right hands & go round all four; cross left hands & go back to your place, then sett to your partner, & cast off one pair, then right and left.

*2d Part.*

First go down on the Woman's right side then come back to her left, & again to the right, then sett round & clap hands, & then go to the next woman.

## HUNT THE SQUIRIL.

First crossover & reel with the women, & then with the men, & come to your place, then lead down the woman going foremost round the second woman & come back to her Place round the first woman while the man goes round the first man to his place; Then lead down the man going round the 2d man, & return to his place round the first man, while the woman goes to hers round the first woman. Then change places, Crossing the first man to the 2d woman's place, the 2d man to the first man's place, then clap hands round till you come to your place, then right & left, then lead down throw the 2d pair & come up again, & turn round your partner.

## THE DUSTY MILLAR.

First lead down throw one pair going round the 2d man, she the 2d woman turn at the foot, then lead up the same & cast down one pair, & turn your partner, then go round the 2d woman & turn your partner, then round the first & turn your partner, then sett to the 2d woman & turn her, then to the 1st woman & turn her, then reel with the two women, & sett to your partner, & turn her.

## THIS IS NOT MY OWN HOUSE.

Cross four hands & cast down one pair, cross hands again, & turn down another pair, then sett & lead up to the head, then cast down then sett, & turn your partner, then go round the 2d woman, she round the 1st man, then back to back, & go round the 1st woman she round the second man, then turn her, then set to the 2d woman, she to the 1st man, & turn, then sett to the 1st woman, she to the 2d man, & turn your partner.

## ARGILES BOULING GREEN.

First sett to your partner, & cast off one pair, sett again, & she turns up & he turns down betwixt the third pair, she betwixt the 2d pair, then leads up joining three hands & meets, then 3 hands round, & reels, then he setts to the 2d woman she to the 1st man & turns them, then he setts to the 1st woman, she to the 2d man, & turn your partner, then 4 hands round with the 1st pair, & cast off, then meet and turn your partner.

## THE BIRKS OF ABERGALDIE.

First sett & cast down, sett & cast down again, then lead up & cast down one pair, then right & left, then sett to the 2d woman, she to the 1st man, & turn them, then set to the 1st woman, she to the 2d man, & turn your partner, then lead down & cast up & turn your partner, lead up & cast down & turn your partner.

## LENNONS (LENNOX'S) LOVE TO BLANTER (BLANTYRE).

First Cross hands and go  $\frac{3}{4}$  round and cast down below the first pair then Cross hands with the third pair set below them and cast up one pair, then right & left, then sett to the 2d woman, She to the first man & turn them then to then to the 1st woman She to the 2d man & then reel the man with the two women & the woman with the two men then Sett to their partner & turn her.

## THE OLD WAY OF KILLIE CRANKIE.

First the man goes by before the 1st man & round behind the 2d & then round behind the 1st to his place & then the woman does the same then they go back to B. & casts off one pair then meet & turn round & cast of another pair then meet & lead up & cast off at the

head then meet below the first pair & turn round and lead out on the man's side then meet & turn round & lead out on the woman's side then meet & turn round & then 4 hands on a breast with the 1st pair & cast off then meet & turn round then 4 hands with the 2d pair then cast back & turn your partner.

## BATHGET BOGS OR PEAS STRAW.

First Sett & cast off meet Sett & cast off again then meet & lead up then cast off the first pair meet again & go B to B then turn round & lead out on the woman's side then meet & go round & lead out on the man's side meet again & turn round then take arms with the 2d woman She with the 1st man then one another then take arms with the 1st woman She with the 2d man then one another then Set to the 2d woman She to the 1st Man & turn them then set to your partner & turn her then set to the 1st woman She to the 2d Man & turns them then sett to your partner & turns her.

## MISS HYDEN.

First Sett & cast off Sett again & turn your partner he sets to the man & she to the woman & turns them then Cross over & clap by turns & the next pair does the same then Dance four hands half round & back again then set to the 2d woman & she to the 1st Man then sett & turn your partner.

## REEL A DOWN A MEREKEN (AMERICAN?).

First Sett & turn twice round Sett to the woman She to the man & turn them then sett & cross over & cast down one pair then right & left then Sett & turn & reel the 2nd pair & she with the 1st pair then Sett & turn & lead up through the first pair meet again & turn & lead down throw the 2d pair meet again & turn round your partner.

Since the above was written a letter has been received from Mrs Stewart of Ayr, Honorary Secretary of the Scottish Country Dance Society, stating that "only one of the dances is known now, two or three more are in an old MS. dated 'Castle Menzies 1746,' . . . and that these "descriptions will help to elucidate what we have in this MS., as the descriptions are not so clear."



## II.

TWO UNRECORDED CROSSES IN WIGTOWNSHIRE. BY REV. R. S. G.  
ANDERSON, B.D., F.S.A.Scot.

## I. ST NINIAN'S CAVE.

In the spring of this year (1924) I had occasion to visit, with a friend, St Ninian's Cave, in Glasserton parish, Wigtownshire. The immediate



Fig. 1. Crosses at St Ninian's Cave, Wigtownshire.

approach is between two rock-walls that, before a fall of the roof, once formed part of the cave itself. On the west wall, about 25 feet from

the iron gate that guards the cave-mouth of to-day, there is a group of four crosses, all of one type. These are well known, and have been fully described to the Society (vide *Proceedings*, vol. xvii. p. 318, and vol. xix. p. 86). In Sir Herbert Maxwell's paper in vol. xix., fig. 1, p. 83, represents the topmost cross on the rock. Fig. 4, p. 85, shows the farthest to the left of the lower group. Fig. 5, same page, lies next on the right. The other, being imperfect, has not been figured. Our illustration (fig. 1) shows the grouping; and also the much-weathered condition to-day that makes the detail, especially of the shafts of the lower crosses, very uncertain. While examining this group, our attention was drawn to the traces of another figure close by. After removing some lichen, the much-weathered remains of a small incised cross were disclosed. It lies practically in line with the three lower crosses of the group, 10 inches to the caveward side of the nearest measuring from the centre of intersection of arms in each, and 23 feet from the gate. The figure consists of what is, roughly, a circle, 4 inches in diameter, defined by a single incised line that originally could not have been much more than  $\frac{1}{16}$  of an inch deep. Within this circle is an incised cross—the full-length double arms measuring vertically  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches and horizontally 3 inches. Each double arm is composed of two roughly parallel lines,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch apart, expanding at the extremities to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. Each expansion begins about 1 inch from the end, and has inner lines curving parallel to the outer. The workmanship is very crude; the devotion of the pilgrim who may have cut the cross evidently having been on a higher plane than his craftsmanship.

## II. BARMORE, PARISH OF KIRKOWAN.

On Barmore Farm, to the north of the Glenluce-Kirkcowan Road, and on the east bank of the Tarf, where a suspension footbridge leads over the water to Blairderry, a modern shrine, rudely constructed of drystone, is set against the inner side of the field dyke. The shrine holds the fragment of a cross-slab (fig. 2) which, about eight years ago, was found in the old ford at this place. As far as I can learn, there are no remains of any ancient church or graveyard in the neighbourhood, so that very probably the cross-slab stood in olden days by this ford to call the passers-by to an act of devotion.

The fragment is badly mutilated—the sculpturing on the left-hand side being almost wholly gone; but enough is left to disclose the original design, which has been that of a large central cross with a smaller cross in each angle. The stone to-day is 1 foot 7 inches in height and 1 foot 4 inches broad. The central cross is 14 inches long,

the shaft  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch broad, and the cross-arm 7 inches long by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch broad. There has been a boss, with a depression in the centre, at the intersection of arms with shaft. The whole has been outlined by a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch groove. Probably the shaft was not closed at the lower end.

In each angle of the central figure has been cut a linear cross. The



Fig. 2. Cross-slab near Barmore.

shaft of that in the lower right-hand angle measures  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length and the arm  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches. In the upper right angle the stone has been weathered away, and only a part of the arm of the cross remains to show that it was similarly formed to that below, but on a smaller scale. Like all the other figures, the cross is formed by  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch grooves.

A novel feature of this sculpture is the enclosing of the upper part of the subordinate crosses by brackets. A small remnant of one on the left-hand side of the central cross suggests that the design on both

sides was exactly similar. The only other cross I know of as possessing anything like this feature (and that distantly) is the one found in Drummore (vide *Proceedings*, vol. ix. p. 581). But the other parts of the designs show no recognisable relationship. There seems a closer connection with the sculptures at Laggangarn, in New Luce parish. On the standing stones there one sees the same reduplication of crosses, and on a cross-slab near at hand there is a linear cross very similar to that on this Barmore slab. Laggangarn lies seven miles to the north-west on the same moor, and close to the same Tarf Water. The design and execution of the Barmore sculpture suggests a later period, but the sculptor may have received his inspiration at the Laggangarn shrine.

I am greatly indebted to Rev. R. Ingles, M.A., and to Mr David Henry, Glenluce, for directing my attention to the cross.

### III.

#### THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF BOTHWELL CASTLE.

By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.LITT., F.S.A. SCOT.

#### I. INTRODUCTION.

The great Castle of Bothwell, on the Clyde, takes rank among the foremost secular structures of the Middle Ages in Scotland. As originally designed, it dates from the period which saw the climax of defensive construction, and in the perfection of its scientific defences it presents a subject of the highest interest to the student of mediæval warfare. Moreover, it has played a great part in the critical and cardinal epoch of Scottish history, and for generations thereafter it was held by the most powerful baronial house in the kingdom. And lastly, in its ruined state it is itself a thing of charm, set amid quiet sylvan surroundings that contrast painfully with the pandemonium of industrial hubbub and soot which holds sway across the river. The aspect of the great pile, with its venerable red freestone walls and towers gleaming warmly amid the green park around, is romantically beautiful: its south front in particular—terminated at one end by the grand donjon, and at the other by the tall machicolated Douglas Tower, and the whole overhanging the glorious wooded sweep of the Clyde—has engaged the brush and pencil of distinguished artists.

Even to the casual observer, the architectural history of the castle is clearly one of high complexity; nor is the difficulty attending any

effort to unravel it diminished by the extreme scantiness of definite documentary evidence bearing upon the structure. It is no part of my purpose in this paper to attempt a complete technical description of the castle. That task will fall in due course to be performed by the Royal Commission on the Ancient Monuments of Scotland. My purpose here is rather to make what I trust will be judged with charity as the first *systematic* effort to read aright the structural history of this mighty fortress. Such an attempt must proceed along scientific lines by collating the meagre historical material to hand with the evidence discoverable in the ruins themselves, tested by a general comparative consideration of the development of mediæval military engineering during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, from which Bothwell Castle mainly or entirely dates.

Elsewhere<sup>1</sup> I have already drawn attention to the remarkable resemblance in plan that exists between Bothwell Castle and the great Castle of Kildrummy in Aberdeenshire. This architectural connection is confirmed by the historical fact that Gilbert de Moravia, Bishop of Caithness from 1223 to 1245, who founded Kildrummy Castle, belonged to the same distinguished family that owned the Castle of Bothwell. Alike in their great size and in their architectural development, these two sister castles stand entirely apart from the native military structures of their time in Scotland. Light is cast upon the question of their *provenance* by a consideration of the arrangements of the donjons at the two castles. At Kildrummy the donjon was vaulted on each floor; in the centre of each vault was an "eye" for hoisting water from a well in the basement, and round the upper floor was a mural gallery open to the interior. All these arrangements are purely French in character. At Bothwell the donjon has its circular outline broken by a projecting beak or spur, and the whole tower stands within its own proper moat, isolated from the rest of the castle of which it forms a part. These characteristics also are entirely French. Both sets of peculiarities were combined in the great donjon of the Château de Coucy,<sup>2</sup> near Laon in France, destroyed by the Germans in the late war (fig. 1). Like the donjon at Bothwell, the tower at Coucy stood within its own moat; like the donjon at Kildrummy, it was vaulted on all floors, had an "eye" in the centre of each vault, and a mural gallery, open to the interior, in the upper part of the wall. The remarkable similarity between these three widely separated castles is explained by the fact that Alexander II. of Scotland married, in 1239, Marie de

<sup>1</sup> See my *The Castle of Kildrummy: Its Place in Scottish History and Architecture*.

<sup>2</sup> The best work of reference is *Le Château de Coucy*, par Eugène Lefèvre-Pontalis: *Introduction historique de Philippe Lauer*. In important details this book supersedes the well-known account of Viollet-le-Duc.

Coucy, daughter of Sieur Enguerrand, the builder of Coucy Castle. Abundant documentary evidence survives to illustrate the close and enduring political and friendly alliance between the Scottish royal family and the scarcely less regal<sup>1</sup> house of Coucy which followed upon this marriage. There seems little room for doubt that the engineers of Bothwell and Kildrummy Castles drew inspiration from the great French prototype. These three buildings are accordingly an interest-

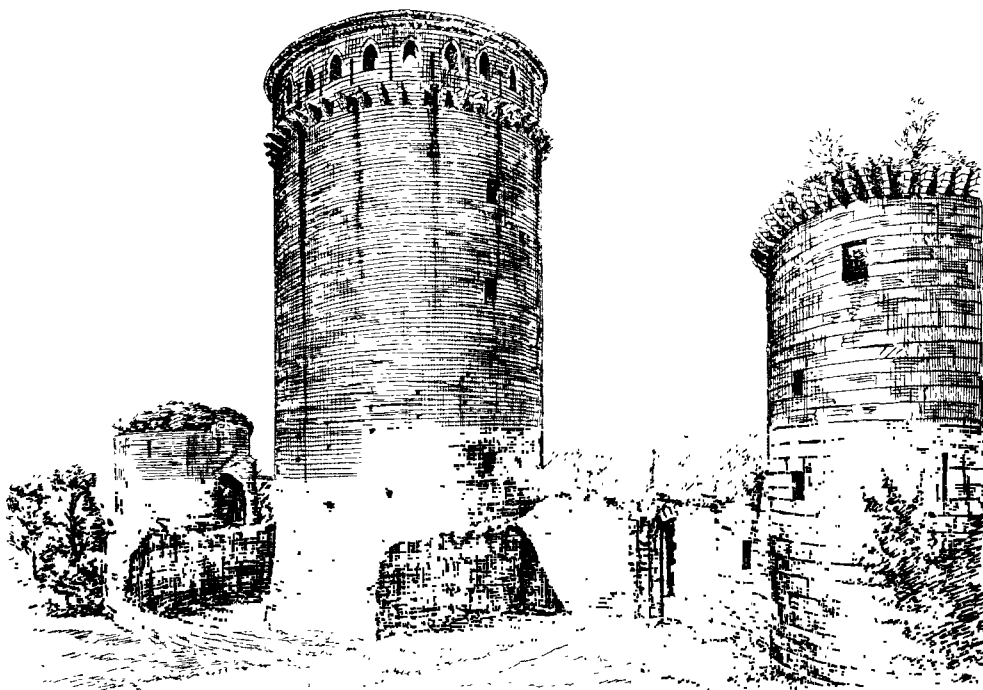


Fig. 1. Château de Coucy: view of Donjon from east.

ing memorial of the earliest days of that "Auld Alliance" which was so deeply to influence Scotland throughout the later Middle Ages.

## II. HISTORICAL DATA.

In the first half of the thirteenth century the fief of Bothwell was held by the de Olifards. On the death of Walter de Olifard, Justiciar

<sup>1</sup> "Roi ne suis,  
Ne prince, ne duc, ne comte aussi:  
Je suis le sire de Coucy."

of Lothian, in 1242,<sup>1</sup> it passed, doubtless through marriage, to Walter de Moravia, a member of the powerful northern family which at this period, and throughout the War of Independence, bulked so largely in Scottish affairs. Walter de Moravia was undoubtedly the founder of the castle, the architectural detail of whose earliest parts clearly indicates a date soon after the middle of the thirteenth century. It seems certainly to have been inhabited in 1278, as in that year Walter de Moravia dates a charter from Botheuyle.<sup>2</sup>

As might be expected from its great size and strength and central position, the castle figures prominently in the struggle for independence. After Balliol's downfall, it was held by Stephen de Brampton for Edward I., and in 1298-9 was besieged by the Scots, who stormed it after a tedious blockade of more than fourteen months. In his report to the English king, de Brampton tells how he defended the castle "against the power of Scotland for a year and nine weeks, to his great loss and misfortune, as all his companions died in the castle except himself and those with him who were taken by famine and by assault."<sup>3</sup> In September 1301, however, Edward recaptured the castle in less than a month. Particulars of his siege preserved in the English public records show that it must have been one of the outstanding episodes of the whole war. The army which Edward employed consisted of 6800 men, including 20 masons and 20 miners.<sup>4</sup> Of course this was a field army, the siege being an incident in the campaign. Edward was before the castle by 29th August,<sup>5</sup> and received its surrender before 24th September.<sup>6</sup> In the royal Wardrobe Accounts we may still read with interest the expenses incurred in building a bridge

<sup>1</sup> *Chronica de Mailros*, ed. J. Stevenson (Bannatyne Club), p. 155; cf. *Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis*, ed. C. Innes (Bannatyne and Maitland Clubs), vol. i. p. 162.

<sup>2</sup> *Liber S. Marie de Dryburgh*, ed. W. Fraser (Bannatyne Club), p. 110.

<sup>3</sup> J. Bain, *Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland*, vol. ii., No. 1867.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1229.

<sup>5</sup> On 18th August the English army had reached Cambusnethan (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1229). Payments for the construction of the great siege engine at Glasgow commence on the 23rd (*Ibid.*, vol. iv. p. 451). On the 29th it began its journey to Bothwell (*Ibid.*, vol. iv. p. 452). We may assume that by this time the investment of the castle had been formally begun. On 6th September the army before Bothwell received an instalment of pay (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1229). On the 8th, Edward gave an oblation of 7s. in honour of the Virgin in his field-chapel before the castle (*Ibid.*, vol. iv. p. 448).

<sup>6</sup> On the 21st, Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, writing to the king from near Lochmaben, has not heard of Bothwell Castle's surrender (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1224). Next day Edward was still at Bothwell, as he gave an oblation to St Maurice in his field-chapel there (*Ibid.*, vol. iv. p. 449). On the 24th, a siege engine began to be transported from Bothwell to Stirling (*Ibid.*, vol. iv. p. 449). On the 29th the army had moved on to Dumpace (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1229). According to *Rotuli Scotie*, vol. i. p. 53, Edward had reached that place by the 27th. On 2nd October, de Lacy, in Galloway, writing again to the king, "congratulates him on the good news, learned from his letters to his son the Prince, of the surrender of Bothwell Castle" (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1235).

across the Clyde for the passage of the army, and in constructing a corduroy road up to the castle, so that the mighty engine called "le Berefrey"<sup>1</sup> could be wheeled against its walls. This engine was built at Glasgow, and detailed payments are recorded to the plumbers, carpenters, and other workmen, and for buying the lead, wheels, cables, wax, and other materials used in its construction and working. No less than thirty wains were required to transport the cumbersome engine to Bothwell, the journey taking two days. The "wood of Glasgu" was plundered to provide material for the hurdles used in the bridge. Master Stephen "le plumer" was the king's chief engineer, and his clerk of works was Roger de Barneby.<sup>2</sup>

After its capture the castle became the headquarters of Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, Warden of Scotland, whose memory still lives in the name "Valence Tower," applied to the mighty donjon.<sup>3</sup> References to the castle and its garrison now become frequent in the English records; and in a wages-sheet of the year 1311-2 we have actually a nominal roll of its garrison, which consisted of Walter Fitzgilbert, the governor, who was paid 1s. a day, 28 squires at 1s., and 29 archers at 2d.<sup>4</sup> The last entry in the records is dated 8th February 1312, when Edward II. strictly enjoins Fitzgilbert to see that the castle "is safely and securely kept, and delivered to no other person whatsoever without the king's letters patent under the Great Seal of England directed to himself."<sup>5</sup> Herein is revealed the nervousness that Bruce's rapid progress was inspiring at English headquarters. After Bannockburn, the Earl of Hereford and other high English officers sought shelter within the castle, but on the arrival of Edward Bruce, the governor Fitzgilbert threw open its gates.<sup>6</sup> In accordance with King Robert's usual policy, the castle would then be dismantled; and that this is what happened we gather from a statement of the Laner-

<sup>1</sup> The "berefrey" or "belfry" was a wooden tower on wheels, several stages high, with a drawbridge at the summit which was dropped upon the wall-head. Probably the word is akin to the German *Bergfried*, *Belfried*, the donjon of a castle. See J. Näher, *Die Burgen in Elsass-Lothringen*, vol. i. p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> For these particulars see Bain's *Calendar*, vol. iv. pp. 448-55. One of the engines employed by Edward in his great siege of Stirling Castle in 1303-4 was called the "Bothwell" (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1599). This may have been the famous berefrey used at the attack on the Clydeside stronghold two years previously.

<sup>3</sup> Grant of the Castle and Barony of Bothwell to Aymer de Valence, 10th August 1301 (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1214). Aymer received his grant before the castle was in English hands. His interest in Bothwell dated back to 30th October 1300, when he had been ordered by Edward to provide for it and the Castle of Selkirk (*Ibid.*, vol. ii., No. 1164).

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. iii. p. 408.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. iii., No. 243.

<sup>6</sup> *Chronicon de Lanercost*, ed. J. Stevenson (Maitland Club), p. 228; *Scalacronica of Sir Thomas Gray*, ed. J. Stevenson (Maitland Club), p. 140; J. Stevenson, *Illustrations of Scottish History* (Maitland Club), p. 2; Barbour, *Bruce*, ed. W. M. Mackenzie, pp. 237, 245.



cost chronicler, who, in describing Edward III.'s later occupation of the castle, says that he found it waste, "having been formerly destroyed by the Scots." This second English occupation, and restoration of the castle, took place in October 1336.<sup>1</sup> The master mason engaged "to repair the damaged fabric was an Englishman, John de Kilburne, who was also employed in rebuilding Edinburgh Castle. He was a man of high standing in his craft, who at Edinburgh had under him 18 English masons, with 8 other masons and 4 quarrymen, all Scots. His wages were 1s. a day,<sup>2</sup> equal to those of the governor of Bothwell Castle in the earlier occupation. His services were rewarded with a grant of the lands of Straton, in the constabulary of Edinburgh, dated 29th November 1336.<sup>3</sup> The presumption is that a master mason of such importance would not be sent to Bothwell save in connection with extensive works; and, from all we know of Bruce's treatment of captured strongholds elsewhere,<sup>4</sup> we may infer that the destruction of 1314 had been on a very thorough scale. It will be shown hereafter that this is precisely the conclusion deducible from the fabric itself.

Edward III. made Bothwell his headquarters from 18th November to 16th December 1336, and during his sojourn he issued a number of important writs from the castle, including orders for naval protection of the English coast, and a summons to Parliament to meet at London to concert means for carrying on the war against the Scots and French.<sup>5</sup> Walter de Selby was appointed Governor of the Castle.<sup>6</sup> The second English occupation, however, was very brief, for in March 1337 the Regent, Sir Andrew de Moray, to whom Bothwell Castle of course by rights belonged, captured it after a short siege, and was under the

<sup>1</sup> *Chronicon de Lanercost*, pp. 287-8: "*dictum castrum, quod olim per Scottos destructum fuerat, reparavit.*" Cf. *Chronicon Walteri de Hemingburgh*, ed. H. C. Hamilton, vol. ii. p. 312: "*castra de Strivilyn et Botheville denuo reparavit et munivit*"; also *Scalacronica*, p. 166.

<sup>2</sup> The same wage was received by Walter de Hereford, the master mason in charge of building operations at the great Edwardian Castle of Carnarvon. But Henry de Elreton, who succeeded him in the later work, got double this sum. See C. R. Peers in *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion*, 1915-6, pp. 7, 15.

<sup>3</sup> Bain's *Calendar*, vol. iii., No. 1215 (see pp. 347-57, 361, and 381). Kilburn is a northern suburb of London. It had a Benedictine nunnery, and therefore would be the centre for a school of mason-craft. There is another Kilburn in Yorkshire, which had an Augustinian priory.

<sup>4</sup> See upon this subject my paper on "The Excavation of Coull Castle" in *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. pp. 94-6.

<sup>5</sup> Rhymmer, *Fœdera*, vol. ii. pp. 951-5; *Rotuli Scotiæ*, vol. i. pp. 470-4; Bain's *Calendar*, vol. iii., Nos. 1217-9.

<sup>6</sup> *Rotuli Scotiæ*, vol. i. p. 488. According to the *Chronicon de Lanercost*, p. 288, the castle was granted to Sir Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, who at the time of the Scottish attack upon it was absent in attendance on the king in Parliament, Walter de Selby being governor on his behalf. For de Selby's career, see Bain's *Calendar*, vol. iii., reff. in index.

patriotic necessity, in pursuit of Bruce's *Testament*,<sup>1</sup> to sacrifice his own property and dismantle the castle a second time.<sup>2</sup> Thereafter it seems to have again lain waste until about 1362, when the barony was acquired by "Black" Archibald "the Grim," third Earl of Douglas and Lord of Galloway.<sup>3</sup> Earl Archibald made Bothwell Castle his favourite seat.<sup>4</sup> A second restoration of the twice dismantled fabric is thus implied, and that this actually took place is shown by the extensive buildings in the style of the later fourteenth century, displaying in various places the arms of Douglas and of Galloway. Thereafter the history of the castle is uneventful. On the forfeiture of the Black Douglasses in 1455 it reverted to the Crown, and after sundry vicissitudes passed ultimately to the Red Douglasses, the powerful Earls of Angus.<sup>5</sup> In 1669 it was acquired by Archibald Douglas, first Earl of Forfar,<sup>6</sup> who towards the end of the century commenced the erection, eastward from the old castle, of the fine classical mansion of Bothwell House.<sup>7</sup> The splendid ruins now belong to the Earl of Home, and have been maintained in good repair, though now their safety is gravely menaced by coal mining underneath the site.

### III. ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY.

Bothwell Castle stands on the lip of a deep ravine, formed by the beautifully wooded valley of the Clyde, which bounds it on two sides,

<sup>1</sup> "On fut suld be all Scottis weire  
Be hill and moss thaimself to weire  
*Lat wood for wallis be; how and spier*  
And battle-axe, their fechtig gear."

See P. Fraser Tytler, *History of Scotland*, ed. 1864, vol. i. p. 367, Note BB.

<sup>2</sup> *Chronicon de Lanercost*, p. 288; *Chronicon Walteri de Hemingburgh*, vol. ii. p. 313; Fordun's *Scotichronicon*, ed. W. F. Skene, vol. i. p. 362; also ed. W. Goodall, vol. ii. p. 324; *Joannis Majoris De Gestis Scotorum*, ed. 1740, p. 232. Fordun's continuator says that Bothwell and other castles were taken with the aid of a siege engine called "Boustour." A battering apparatus of some kind is indicated. See also *The Original Chronicle of Andrew of Wyntoun*, ed. F. J. Amours, vol. vi. pp. 92-3, and note thereon. Wyntoun specially comments on Andrew de Moray's destruction of fortresses: "al the castellis he kest downe."

<sup>3</sup> Date as given by Sir W. Fraser, *The Douglas Book*, vol. ii. p. 92, note 4. Cf. *Ibid.*, p. 613; also *Origines Parochiales Scotiæ*, ed. J. Robertson (Bannatyne Club), vol. i. p. 55; and G. Chalmers, *Caledonia*, new ed., vol. vi. p. 701.

<sup>4</sup> *Douglas Book*, vol. ii. p. 614. Several charters of the Earl are dated from the castle. He died at Threave Castle in 1400, and was buried in his own foundation (1398) of Bothwell Collegiate Church.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. pp. 92-3.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. ii. p. 443.

<sup>7</sup> The exact date of its commencement seems nowhere recorded. T. Pennant (*Tour in Scotland*, 1772, published in 1790, vol. ii. p. 144) says it was built "between ninety and a hundred years ago"—i.e. (reckoning from the date of the tour) between 1672 and 1682. But he also says the builder was the *second* Earl (1712-5), who was killed at Sheriffmuir. So also Macfarlane's topographer in 1725 speaks of the new house as "never finished, being stoped by the death of both Earles the father and son" (see *infra*, p. 192, note 3). The oldest wing of the house is a fine example of the Queen Anne style.

south and west, while elsewhere it was embraced by a mighty ditch extending right round the open faces to meet the valley on either side. As usual, the ditch is not drawn close to the walls, but leaves space for *les lices*, the defences of which were unusually substantial—traces of mason work have been found.<sup>1</sup> In its original design the castle (fig. 2) was a huge pentagonal structure, with massive round towers at four of the angles, and a gatehouse, with portal and trance recessed between two similar towers, at the fifth angle. The plan thus closely corresponds with that of Kildrummy Castle.<sup>2</sup> As at Kildrummy, one tower forms the donjon, and far surpasses in magnitude any of its fellows, being no less than 65 feet in diameter, and still rising to 82 feet in height. It should be noted that Bothwell and Kildrummy are the only two thirteenth-century castles in Scotland which show this enormous preponderance of the donjon. At Kildrummy the donjon is 53 feet in diameter, and the next largest tower reaches a diameter of 40 feet. In other Scottish castles of this period the donjon is at best only slightly larger than the remaining towers. At Inverlochy it measures a little over 40 feet in diameter, the other towers having each a diameter of 34 feet. At Kirkcudbright the donjon is 45 feet in diameter, and three of the other towers reach a diameter of nearly 36 feet. At Dirleton the donjon is 41 feet in diameter, and two of the other towers were little inferior to it in dimensions.<sup>3</sup> At Lochindorb, Auchincass, Tibbers, Rothesay, and Black Castle of Moulin there is no appreciable difference in size between any of the towers; and at Dunstaffnage the donjon is actually smaller than one of the mural towers—a feature paralleled in the Welsh border Castle of Morlais. Similarly the donjon at Coull Castle as originally built had been about 29 feet in diameter, while the surviving gatehouse tower must have attained a diameter of about 30 feet.<sup>4</sup> The immense size of the donjon at Bothwell and Kildrummy, as compared with the other towers, is neither a Scottish nor an English characteristic; it has a distinctly French flavour, and at once recalls Coucy. The way in which the curtains at Bothwell come together towards the gateway, and the position of the latter opposite the longest side on the crest of the valley, are exactly similar to the arrangement of plan at Kildrummy. On either curtain adjoining the gatehouse are projecting latrine-shoots, and these also occupy a position

<sup>1</sup> See D. MacGibbon and T. Ross, *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland*, vol. v. pp. 236-7.

<sup>2</sup> See plan of Kildrummy Castle in *Proceedings*, vol. liv. p. 135.

<sup>3</sup> See the plan of this castle, incorporating the results of recent excavations, in the *Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments (Scotland)*, Report on East Lothian, p. 16.

<sup>4</sup> All the foregoing are true basal measurements, taken below the battered plinths where such exist.

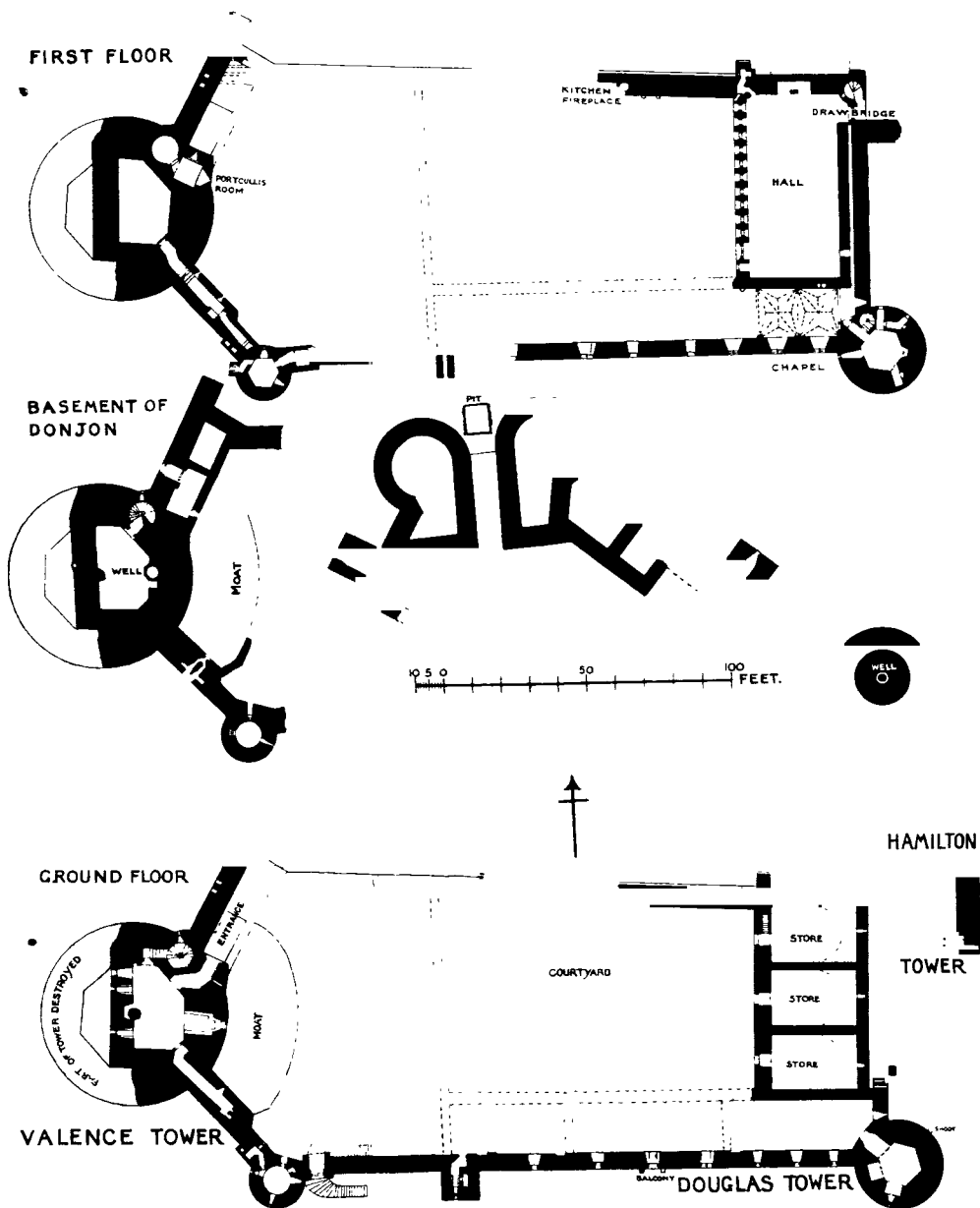


Fig. 2. Bothwell Castle : Plans.

identical with that of the same contrivances at Kildrummy. There is a postern with a stair leading down to the slope of the valley, just as at the Aberdeenshire castle.

The great curtains vary from 5 to 11 feet thick, and the walls of the donjon attain a thickness of 15 feet; the total internal area of the original *enceinte* is about 224 feet<sup>1</sup> by 211 feet.<sup>2</sup> Besides the round angle towers there are two square ones, in the middle of the south and east fronts respectively. The former tower is still tolerably perfect, but of the latter only the excavated foundations and two of the sides remain. At an early period the castle has suffered partial destruction, all the northern half being cast down; and when thereafter it was restored, the later builders, just as at Dirleton Castle,<sup>3</sup> did not attempt to work out anew the grand lines of the original plan, but contented themselves with drawing a transverse screen wall right across between the broken ends of the east and west curtains. The square tower in the middle of the older east front thus became an angle tower to the new *enceinte*, which is oblong, lies east and west, and measures about 224 feet in length by 93 feet in greatest breadth.<sup>4</sup> The castle was thus reduced to half its original size, and its thirteenth-century proportions remained unsuspected until revealed by the excavator's spade in 1888. The new north curtain is built chiefly of good well-coursed rubble, but a great deal of ashlar from the destroyed portions has been re-used in the later wall, particularly in its upper part. In the middle was the new main gate, which seems—as at Craigmillar—to have been undefended by towers. It has now disappeared, leaving only a ragged gap in the wall.

Only the inner half of the mighty donjon, the Valence Tower, remains (fig. 3). Its outer face has been destroyed, and the breached segment closed by a later square consolidation. Even ruined as it is, however, this splendid donjon is in every respect the most imposing tower in Scotland. It stands at the west corner of the courtyard, from which, like the donjon at Coucy, it is cut off by its own moat—a ditch 23 feet in breadth and still about 15 feet in depth, which has been defended, like its French archetype, by a thin *chemise* on the counter-scarp. Although there has been nothing like the elaboration of detail found at Coucy, the resemblance in principle between the two donjons is here most striking, and indeed identical. It is quite evident that the Bothwell defences, which are unique in Britain, were directly imitated

<sup>1</sup> Reckoned from the centre face of the donjon to the east curtain.

<sup>2</sup> Reckoned from the south curtain to the rear of the gatehouse.

<sup>3</sup> See my paper in *Scottish Notes and Queries*, 3rd ser., vol. ii. pp. 70-4.

<sup>4</sup> Measured from the angle between the postern gate and the gorge wall of the Prison Tower, to the point at the north curtain opposite.

from the great French fortress.<sup>1</sup> All the rooms in the interior of the donjon have been octagonal. The basement is partly sunk, its floor ranging with the bottom level of the ditch. It contains a very deep

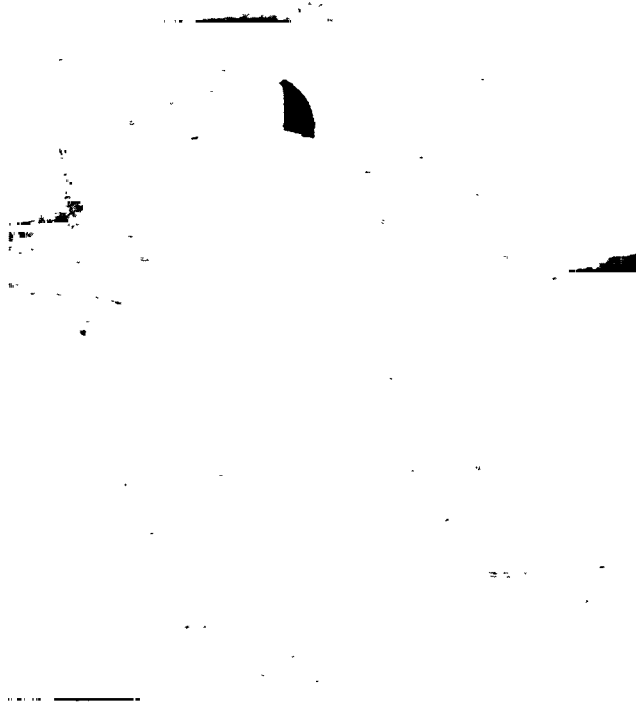


Fig. 3. Bothwell Castle: view of Donjon.

and carefully constructed draw-well, cradled in ashlar, and opening beneath a round arch in the wall. Adjoining it is a pointed aumbry

<sup>1</sup> Mr A. Hamilton Thomson (*Military Architecture in England during the Middle Ages*, p. 181) writes of the Coucy donjon: "Its isolation upon the outer face of the inner ward, protected by its own inner ditch, and covered by a strong curtain of its own, are signs of a perfection of engineering skill to which our builders did not attain." Yet here in Scotland all the essential features of this perfection of engineering skill are repeated at Bothwell.

It will be observed that at Bothwell the moat is carried round the inner or courtyard face only of the donjon, whereas at Coucy (see fig. 1) the donjon is completely encircled by its moat and *chemise*. This was necessary because the Coucy donjon is placed in the forefront of the castle, facing the level base-court and the approach from the town. At Bothwell, where the donjon stands in rear of the castle, with its back to the Clyde and accessible only from the courtyard, it was necessary to provide the moat on this side only: nor indeed would it have been practicable to carry the moat round the other side, on the steeply sloping bank of the river.

for a bucket. This well-room in the basement enters by a newel stair down from the hall, which forms the true ground floor, being a little above the *terreplein*. The hall had a wooden floor, resting upon a central octagonal pier carried up from the basement, and also apparently on two segmental and raked bearing ribs crossing the tower from east to west, and supported on the central pier.<sup>1</sup> The springer of the bearing rib remains on the east side of the tower. The hall and the two storeys over it were covered in by strongly strutted floors, for which the joist-holes, corbels, and sunk rests to receive the verticals and struts may still be seen in the walls. The mode of construction resembles that which was employed in the great tower of Threave Castle. Having regard to the wide span of these floors (39 feet in the angles of the octagon), it is probable that the central pier was carried up in stone or wood to receive similar struts for strengthening the cross-beams. On the hall floor is the main entrance to the donjon, by a zigzag ribbed passage opening from a fine pointed doorway of two recessed and splayed orders in the great beak or angular construction which springs out from the round face of the tower. This beak is an extremely interesting and important feature. It is quite unmistakably French in character, and is unknown in the English castles, where the nearest parallels are certain basal spurs, as at Goodrich: French instances may be seen in La Tour Blanche at Issoudun, the towers of *enceinte* at Loches, one of the towers at Arques, the donjon of La Roche-Guyon, some of the towers at Carcassonne, and the great donjon of Château Gaillard. Here at Bothwell the special purpose of the beak is to strengthen the tower where its wall is traversed by the entrance passage, and also to turn the portal away from the open courtyard, so that its door could not easily be battered in.<sup>2</sup> As at Coucy, the entrance had its own portcullis, worked from a neat ribbed mural chamber overhead. A drawbridge spanning the moat was also manipulated from this chamber. Within the portcullis a wooden door was secured by a draw-bar. The newel stair continuing up from the basement served all floors of the tower. It has no communication with the entrance passage, so that anyone from outside wishing to use the stair had to pass through the hall. In the hall is a fine pointed mural arcading of moulded wall-ribs showing a good mid-thirteenth-century profile; and a splendid pointed and traceried window of two flush orders, having stone seats and filleted nook-shafts with enriched First Pointed bases and caps, overlooks the courtyard. A mural passage opening beside

<sup>1</sup> A similar contrivance for supporting a floor was inserted in 1393 in the Queen's Tower at Carnarvon Castle. See C. R. Peers, *Trans. Cymmrodorion Soc.*, 1915-6, pp. 21, 51.

<sup>2</sup> At Coucy there is no beak, and the entrance directly fronts the courtyard.

the window leads to a garderobe in the south curtain. The room above the hall seems to have been garrison quarters, and was plainly fitted up. At Coucy the corresponding storey was appointed for the same purpose. From this room access was obtained by a passage in the curtain to the mural garderobes adjoining the Prison Tower. The top storey was evidently the lord's apartment. It has a window of two trifoliated lights with unpierced tympanum beneath a pointed general arch of two flush orders. Like that in the hall, the bay of this window is furnished with stone seats. The roof of the donjon has been wooden and flat, of the construction already described. In the late western consolidation are a fireplace and loops beneath segmental rear-arches. As thus truncated, the tower was closed in by a pentice roof at the second floor level, above which emerged the three remaining sides of the topmost storey, which was then abandoned.

This superb tower is entirely cased with the most beautiful dressed ashlar work, low in the course and closely jointed. A number of the putlog holes may still be seen which were left for the scaffoldings used in its construction. At the wall-head level of the south curtain a pointed door led out from the donjon to the roundway, which was protected both by a battlement and a rear-wall, with a pentice roof overhead. The parapet of the donjon is now gone, but had a wooden hoarding carried by heavy moulded corbels, several of which, of an enormous size, remain just over the intaking of the beak into the tower. These huge corbels were evidently meant to carry the hoarding out clear of the beak, so as to defend the portal from above. A small postern, strongly defended by an iron *grille*, a wooden door, and an inner portcullis, opens in the curtain north of the donjon. It would be useful during a siege for effecting a sally against assailants mining the base of the donjon, and also as an emergency mode of escape. A similar postern exists at Coucy, and there are Scottish examples at Dirlerton, Tibbers, and Coull.

The Prison Tower adjoining the donjon eastward is the smallest in the castle, being only 20 feet in diameter. It is three storeys high. The basement contains a prison, reached by steps down from a low door opening on the slope above the counterscarp of the donjon moat. The prison is lit by a single high loop, and has a garderobe. The ground floor enters from the *terreplein* by a door with corbelled lintel, and the first floor was reached by a mural passage from the portcullis room of the postern adjoining, the portcullis room itself being served by an outside stair carried on an arch against the curtain wall. The upper two floors of the tower contained living-rooms, and their garderobes have flues corbelled out in the west re-entrant. This tower with the prison in its basement was clearly meant to be a secure post, as



its doors towards the courtyard were protected overhead by a timber hoarding carried on large stone corbels. The postern is set in a projecting part of the curtain, and has a shouldered lintel beneath a segmental outer arch, in the soffit of which is the portcullis slot. Over the postern has been inserted a sunk quatrefoil panel with a shield bearing the Douglas arms:—*goutté*, a heart, on a chief three mullets. Throughout the Prison Tower and the curtain westward the same finished masonry is employed as in the donjon. In addition to the garderobes serving the Prison Tower, which are also reached along the mural passage from the first floor of the donjon, there is another garderobe midway in the wall at this level, the flue of which combines with that of the garderobe from the hall below and discharges by a single vent at the base of the curtain. This vent is carried right through the wall, so that it could be used to drain off water from the donjon moat,<sup>1</sup> by which means also the soil from the garderobes would be effectively flushed out. But in order to avoid giving access to a foe, the flue is divided by a central post. A method essentially similar though less elaborate in construction is employed in the garderobes at Kildrummy.

It seems quite clear that the donjon, the Prison Tower with postern adjoining, and the length of curtain between these towers must all be read together as of one date and design, and that in the thirteenth century. The style of masonry, and the arrangement of the garderobes and mural passages connecting all these works together, seem both decisive on this point.

Eastward from the postern the south curtain (fig. 4) has been rebuilt in somewhat inferior masonry upon the original splayed footing, which remains *in situ* throughout its length. Its course is interrupted by a small square garderobe tower of three stages, crowned by a heavy machicolated parapet of late fourteenth-century type. A similar parapet is carried westward along the curtain at two levels—the higher, which adjoins the tower, being reached by a newel stair in the thickness of the wall, partly supported on internal corbelling. This part of the curtain has also had a corbelled parapet along the inner side. The Garderobe Tower served a range of buildings backing upon this curtain, the tusks of whose gable remain on the curtain just westward of the tower. These buildings were two storeys high, lit by a series of fine mullioned and transomed windows of late fourteenth-century fashion,<sup>2</sup> one of which was provided with a timber balcony overlooking the Clyde.

<sup>1</sup> The existence of a postern gate at its north end shows that the moat was never designed to be wet, although a certain amount of rain-water would collect in it.

<sup>2</sup> There were windows of very similar design in Archibald the Grim's other Castle of Threave.

The Douglas Tower at the south-east corner doubtless occupies the site of a thirteenth-century predecessor, but in its present condition it is a magnificent example of late fourteenth-century construction.<sup>1</sup> It is beautifully built of smooth ashlar,<sup>2</sup> measures 31 feet in diameter, and contains four storeys of unvaulted hexagonal chambers. Its distinguishing feature is its splendid bold machicolated parapet of great oversailing moulded corbels.<sup>3</sup> These corbels resemble those found in other



Fig. 4. Bothwell Castle: general view from south.

Scottish buildings of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, such as Caerlaverock, Borthwick, and Crichton Castles, and the west towers of

<sup>1</sup> Alike in design and detail, it far surpasses the contemporary and similar towers at Caerlaverock.

<sup>2</sup> The fourteenth-century ashlar shows greater variation in the length and height of the courses, and the jointing is much less regular, than in the work of the preceding century; also joggled joints are very frequent. But otherwise the ashlar work of both periods is closely similar. Of course in an ashlar facing it is difficult to say how far old stones may have been used again in the later work. This has certainly happened in the rubble walling on the north front. Ashlar masonry of similarly irregular character, and showing frequent joggled jointing, occurs also at Bothwell Church.

<sup>3</sup> The corbels consist of five courses, of which the upper forms the arch of the *machicoulis*, while the lowermost is a small member, turned off below in a hollow chamfer. The other courses are filleted along the upper edge. This type of corbelling is different from the earlier corbels of the transverse north wall (outside the hall), which lack the lowermost member, and different again from the still older corbels of the donjon, which do not form machicolations but were meant to carry a timber brattice or hoarding.

Aberdeen Cathedral. Even in France permanent stone-built *mâchicoulis* did not supersede the earlier timber hoardings, supported either on putlogs or by stone corbels (as on the donjon at Bothwell), until the very end of the thirteenth century. The height of the tower, to the summit of the corbels as now remaining, and measured in the middle of the south face, is 59 feet. Its basement contained a store, unconnected with the upper rooms. The first floor was entered from the chapel adjoining it against the south curtain, and hence a newel stair leads upward to the parapet. The three upper storeys contain living-rooms, well fitted up with garderobes, good windows, and handsome hooded fireplaces each of a different pattern, but all showing the carved caps, high angular bases, and other moulded detail of the period. The bases closely resemble those found at Bothwell Church and Lincluden College, both foundations of Archibald the Grim. The topmost storey is handsomely arcaded with a semi-circular arch on each face of the hexagon. From this level there is access to the allure walk of the east curtain, in the re-entrant of which is placed a picturesque corbelled garderobe turret. With one exception, the openings in this tower are either large plain windows or small rectangular loops, instead of the pointed and traceried windows and long fan-tailed slits found in the thirteenth-century Valence and Prison Towers.<sup>1</sup>

The east curtain is built of good coursed rubble, inferior in appearance to the ashlar of the Douglas Tower and the south curtain. Structurally, however, it seems to form a unit with the tower, and its inferior finish may be due to the fact that this curtain is not so easily seen as the great south front, which, with its noble row of moulded windows overlooking the Clyde, was clearly intended to be a spectacular feature of the castle. Throughout its length the east curtain stands on the foundations of the older wall, which are visible at various points. North of the Douglas Tower is a small projecting work, apparently a garderobe flue dating with the older curtain.<sup>2</sup> Beyond this again are the remnants of the great square Hamilton Tower,<sup>3</sup> which capped the north-east angle of the curtailed enclosure. The lower part of this tower is built of fine ashlar, with a splayed base course, and evidently belongs to the original castle; the upper part

<sup>1</sup> In addition to the Valence, Hamilton, and Douglas Towers, a Cuming Tower is mentioned about 1710. See *Descriptions of the Sheriffdoms of Lanark and Renfrew*, by W. Hamilton of Wishaw (Maitland Club), p. 39. Perhaps this may have been the Prison Tower.

<sup>2</sup> This flue indicates that the garderobes serving the original south-east tower were not corbelled out in the angle like those of the present Douglas Tower, but were situated on the east curtain adjoining, and reached doubtless by mural passages, like the garderobes of the Valence Tower.

<sup>3</sup> Owing to its ruined state the dimensions of this tower are a little uncertain, but it had been about 32 feet by 35 feet.

has been rebuilt in rough rubble. There were garderobes in the south-east angle, draining into a built gutter along the base of the eastern wall. The inner face of this tower, towards the courtyard, has a round-arched portal at the first-floor level (fig. 5). In connection with this portal there has been a drawbridge worked on the counterpoise



Fig. 5. Bothwell Castle: door in Hamilton Tower.

principle, the wall above being carefully recessed to receive the counterpoising mechanism, so that the bridge when up would lie flush with the wall-plane and mask the portal. The counterpoise was a single one, placed centrally. This bridge was designed to cut off access into the tower from the courtyard, and must have been removed when the present hall was built across the tower. The type of drawbridge with counterpoising mechanism is later than the simpler form raised by a windlass, which is exemplified in the Valence Tower. The counterpoised

bridge does not appear in England until the fourteenth century, and in Scotland is not found, elsewhere than at Bothwell, until about a century later.<sup>1</sup> Inside this portal subsequently a newel stair was inserted, giving access to the various floors of the tower.<sup>2</sup> Previously these were no doubt reached by ladders and hatches. The Hamilton Tower has clearly been built before the north transverse curtain, which lacks bond with the tower, although tusks were provided in the upper part of the tower wall to engage the curtain.

The great round tower at the north-east angle of the original *enceinte* was 35 feet in diameter, and contained an ashlar-lined central well. As already indicated, the main gate on the north was deeply recessed between two bold flanking towers, each 34 feet 10 inches in diameter, whose inward faces pass back into the straight sides of a long narrow trance, 9 feet 7 inches wide, as at the contemporary gatehouses of Kildrummy, Kirkcudbright, and Coull. As at Coull also, in front of the portal is a pit, 10 feet 8 inches by 8 feet 5 inches, well built of very fine ashlar.<sup>3</sup> Evidently the drawbridge here pivoted by the middle on trunnions turning at the inner end of the pit: so that, when the bridge was down, part would lie along the passage within, and part would span the pit; and when raised one-half would be sunk in the pit and the other half would form an additional barrier to the entrance. A similar mode of construction was used in the drawbridge of the donjon at Coucy.<sup>4</sup> In rear of the gatehouse were porters' lodges, and on the adjoining curtains are the latrine-shoots already referred to. They are large enough to be called garderobe towers, and in each the vent is gible-checked for an external grating, opening outwards.

The buildings within the later enclosure (fig. 6) all belong to the end of the fourteenth century. Against the east curtain is a fine hall

<sup>1</sup> As at Tullyallan Castle.

<sup>2</sup> That this newel stair is an insertion seems clear from four facts:—(1) It is formed partly in the thickness of the north curtain and partly in that of the tower wall, which were built as separate units and do not bond, the open joint between them appearing in the well of the stair. Had the stair been coeval with the tower it would have been either wholly within the tower, or else a special buttress construction would have been built to accommodate it. (2) The stair is lit only by loops opening upon the hall, whereas had it been contemplated originally the loops would more naturally have been provided in the north wall, looking out to the field. (3) The staircase does not bond either with the tower or with the north curtain, but tusks were worked into these walls to give it stability. (4) Its masonry resembles that of the Douglas Tower, and differs from that of the walling on either side. At the same time, while the stair seems an insertion, it is certainly earlier than the hall, as it rests upon a moulded corbelling which the hall conceals.

<sup>3</sup> Within this pit were found three transverse beams, one of which is still *in situ*, having three sockets for uprights.

<sup>4</sup> For this type of drawbridge see my paper on "The Excavation of Coull Castle" in *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. pp. 72-3. The drawbridge of the Queen's gate at Carnarvon Castle is an English example.

over three plain barrel-vaulted cellars. Though built against the curtain, it is not in contact with it, a narrow space being left for an eaves-gutter, the wall-head of the hall being of course much lower than the curtain. Also the side walls lack bond both with the north curtain and with the wall of the chapel, against which the hall abuts on the south. The hall measures 65 feet by 32 feet. At either end are pointed doorways, which must have been reached by external wooden stairs against the north curtain and the chapel wall respectively. Some indication of the abutment of the southern stair still

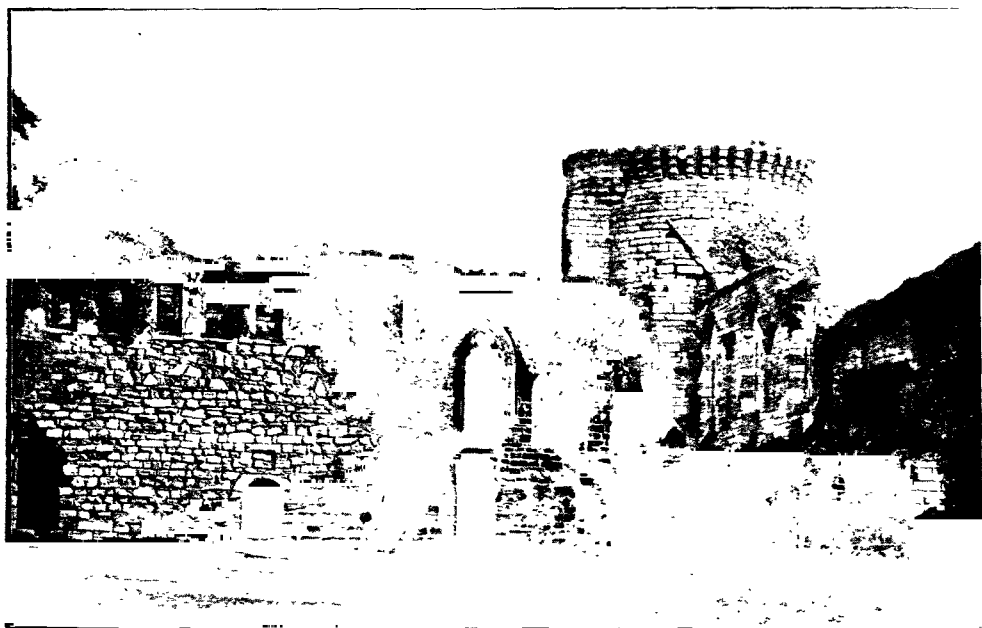


Fig. 6. Bothwell Castle: view of Hall, Chapel, and Douglas Tower.

remains. At the north end were the screens, with a minstrels' gallery above, of which the joist-holes remain. The dais was at the south end, and was lit by an extremely beautiful window of two trifoliated lights with a quatrefoil set in the pointed general arch.<sup>1</sup> In addition there is a fine row of ten high windows, like the clerestory lights of a church, each with an obtuse pointed and trifoliated arch, set deeply within a splayed external reveal, like the windows at Bothwell Church. The

<sup>1</sup> This finely proportioned dais window, with its geometrical tracery, small capitals, and wide casement-moulding, has been a striking piece of fourteenth-century Scottish Gothic, but is now much wasted and destroyed. The sacristy door at Bothwell Church has somewhat similar mouldings.

height of these windows (about 20 feet above the present *terreplein*) and the unfinished aspect of the masonry below, as if this part of the wall was not meant to be seen, suggest that an external timber gallery was built or contemplated along the hall, though no corbels, water-table, or joist-holes remain. Within the hall in the north curtain may be seen an older hall fireplace at a lower level than the floor of the present hall. The fireplace has a central post between two voids with shouldered lintels, and above is a recess with a moulded corbel below, probably to carry a lamp. This older hall must have had an east-to-west axis along the north curtain, since otherwise it would have masked the drawbridge-portal of the Hamilton Tower, as the present hall does.<sup>1</sup> The present hall has no fireplace, and doubtless there was an open hearth in the middle of the floor, with a *louvre* in the roof.<sup>2</sup> West of the hall, in the north curtain not far from the entrance, may be traced part of the kitchen fireplace, with an oven, and two corbels survive in the wall. These indications remain to afford us some idea of the disposition of the domestic apartments that preceded the present fine buildings of the late fourteenth century.<sup>3</sup> At the north-west corner of the hall a narrow straight stair, now built up, led down to the cellar below, and a small passage gives access to a garderobe in a buttress projecting from the outside of the curtain, and crowned by a great roundel or open bartisan resting on continuous corbels (fig. 7).<sup>4</sup> A similar roundel was employed to finish off the

<sup>1</sup> Mr G. S. Aitken (see his paper on "Bothwell Castle" in *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects*, vol. xi. pp. 422, 425) formed the opinion that the cellars under the hall were an insertion of the seventeenth century, and that in its original state the hall was the full height of the building, the low fireplace in its north wall being a relic of this older arrangement, and not a remnant of an earlier hall. But there is no clear evidence that the cellars were so late an after-thought, although in order of construction they are doubtless posterior to the side walls between which they are set. Nor have their outer doors any appearance of being slapped. Two of the doors have shouldered lintels of an early fashion, which could not possibly belong to work of the seventeenth century. Also the position of the fireplace, at the screens' end of the hall, would be an impossible one. To explain the great height of the windows and two doors, Mr Aitken fell back on the theory of an internal lateral gallery, but this is highly improbable in a baronial hall of the fourteenth century. I do not think there can be any doubt that the hall was designed from the outset on the first-floor level, ranging with the chapel adjoining, and over a basement for storage, and that the low fireplace in the north wall is a relic of an earlier hall backing against this curtain.

<sup>2</sup> So also the great hall at Doune Castle is unprovided with a fireplace. Even in England, at a castle of the first rank like Carnarvon, the hall had merely an open hearth.

<sup>3</sup> It may be mentioned also that in the western section of the north curtain there has been an external stone rain-water basin with supply drain through the wall, conducting doubtless into a barrel or tank. There is a similar arrangement at Craigmillar.

<sup>4</sup> This garderobe in its buttress is older than the hall, being an integral part of the north curtain against which the hall has subsequently been built. Probably the garderobe was designed in connection with the older hall, off whose dais it would have opened very conveniently—as in the halls at Doune Castle and Linlithgow Palace, and in the extended buildings at the Dean Castle. When the present hall was erected it was evidently found necessary to make a new (and

projecting end of the broken west curtain, outside the new enclosure (fig. 8).<sup>1</sup> Within it a recess is here formed in the angle between the two walls, the masonry overhead being carried on great obtusely pointed and splayed ribs. From this recess the field is swept by a loop of crosslet form, fan-tailed at the four extremities. The defensive platform on the roundel above is reached by the wall-walk of the



Fig. 7. Bothwell Castle: view of Transverse Wall, east section: foundation of north-east Tower in foreground.

rebuilt west curtain. Access to this wall-walk is obtained by a door slapped out from the donjon stair, and masked by a pentice roof for

rather awkward) access from it to this garderobe; and to effect this alteration part of the inner facing of the north curtain had to be taken down, and was rebuilt with coarse irregular masonry, similar to that used in the hall, and very different from the rest of the north curtain—the junction between the two kinds of work being very distinct.

<sup>1</sup> On the inside the breach in the west curtain takes the form of an almost vertical joint about 10 feet out from the portal of the donjon. The contrast between the masonry on either side of this joint—the polished ashlar of the thirteenth century and the later rugged coursed rubble—is extremely striking (see fig. 3). As the breach is an oblique one (see key plan, fig. 9), the joint externally appears close up against the segmental staircase of the donjon. But the lower part of the curtain right along to its buttressed termination is thirteenth-century work, the foundation having been left undisturbed, although the upper part was overthrown. Thus the jambs of the postern are original, but its segmental head was restored when the curtain was rebuilt.



which a chase was ragged in the ashlar of the donjon.<sup>1</sup> The thirteenth-century wall-walk had a parapet with ridged coping, the end stones of which still remain, bonded into and now cut flush with the tower wall, and traversed by the raggle of the later pentice roof. The original wall-walk had been open, and was commanded from the hoarding on the donjon above. Under the subsequent arrangements this hoarding must have been disused. Owing to its ruinous condition

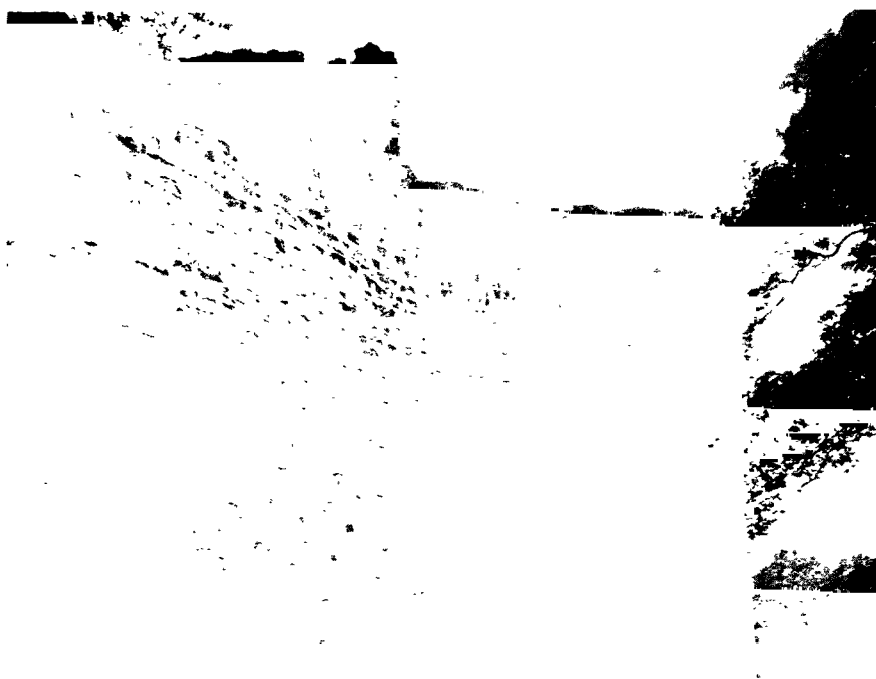


Fig. 8. Bothwell Castle: view of Transverse Wall, west section.

it is impossible to say how the later north curtain was finished off, except in the portion outside the hall, where the great corbels of a machicolated parapet remain. The rear-wall here was carried on heavy continuous corbelling. On the outside the stubs of broken corbels indicate that the machicolated parapet here was carried at least as far west as the breach in the curtain.

Adjoining the hall against the south curtain, and like it on the first

<sup>1</sup> Contrast the wall-walk on the other side of the donjon, where the thirteenth-century arrangements survive, with the weather table for a pentice carefully wrought on the tower face.

floor, was the chapel, in the same rich architecture. It has measured about 43 feet in length and 17 feet in breadth, consisting of three bays, of which the two eastern formed the choir, and were covered with quadripartite vaulting resting on clustered corbel-shafts with enriched caps. Some of the foliated bosses that remain<sup>1</sup> are of extreme beauty. In the chapel are a piscina (with nook-shaftlets, pointed arch, and two small trifoliated niches for the cruets of wine and water<sup>2</sup>), also a double aumbry and a stoup. It has further been fitted for a rood-beam, and there was a gallery at the west end. Along the south wall, at a height of 4 feet above the floor corbels, runs a bench, raised at the east end to form sedilia.

The chapel was entered at the west end by a door, of which a moulded jamb remains, reached evidently from the landing of the dais-stair to the hall. Like the hall, the chapel has not been built in structural contact with the east curtain and Douglas Tower, but had its own proper east gable, behind which was a passage of communication between the tower and the hall. Yet the chapel was clearly contemplated from the outset in the late fourteenth-century reconstruction, as its southern pointed windows,<sup>3</sup> corbel-shafts, wall-ribs, and bench form an integral part of the curtain belonging to that period.<sup>4</sup> Indeed the hall, chapel, and Douglas Tower, although the tower and adjoining curtains were naturally built first of all, must be taken together as one scheme, the rooms in the Douglas Tower forming the solar or lord's private apartments, with convenient access both to the hall and chapel, and the kitchen being situated in the usual manner at the lower end of the hall, against the north curtain, in which its fireplace still remains.<sup>5</sup> All this work—hall, chapel, and Douglas Tower—is clearly of the same date, towards the end of the fourteenth century, as their very rich architectural and heraldic detail quite unequivocally proves.<sup>6</sup> They evidently form part of the reconstruction carried out by Archibald the

<sup>1</sup> Now preserved in the portcullis room of the donjon.

<sup>2</sup> As in the piscina at Bothwell Church.

<sup>3</sup> As often in work of this period, the numerous delicate arch-moulds of these windows die out on the plain splayed jambs.

<sup>4</sup> So also in the south curtain at Doune Castle windows were left for a chapel, which in this case was apparently never completed.

<sup>5</sup> The arrangement of all these apartments—the hall along one curtain, having the kitchen at its lower end, and at its upper end the chapel at right angles against another curtain, with private rooms in an angle tower between them—resembles generally the lay-out of similar buildings at the great Edwardian Castle of Harlech. Here the communication between the hall and the angle tower, passing behind the chapel, takes the form not of a narrow passage as at Bothwell, but of an open court.

<sup>6</sup> One shield bears the Douglas arms alone; another shows them impaled with the lion of Galloway, which appears alone on a third shield. A fourth shield is carved with the three mullets of the original lords, the de Moravias. These moulded and heraldic details are now assembled in the portcullis room of the donjon.

Grim, and closely resemble in style his work at Bothwell Church and Lincluden.<sup>1</sup>

If, therefore, we accept our lower date of building operations as a fixed one, if we agree that the present hall, chapel, Douglas Tower, and south curtain are all the work of Archibald the Grim, it becomes possible, by reasoning backwards from this fixed point, to make some approach towards a disentanglement of the architectural history of the castle during the stormy years of the fourteenth century. In the first place, the radical nature of Grim Archibald's reconstruction justifies our connecting it with a previous dismantlement. A hall inside the curtains might be taken down and refashioned at any time, but the total rebuilding of the south curtain and Douglas Tower could have been necessitated by nothing else than the military demolition of their predecessors. Now the demolition that gave rise to the latest reconstruction must clearly be the latest demolition, *i.e.* that of 1337. But the Hamilton Tower and the transverse north curtain, with the fireplace of an older hall at a lower level, are certainly (as we have seen) earlier than Archibald the Grim's buildings set against them. Therefore, presumably, they are earlier also than the destruction of 1337 which they have survived. At the same time they are in their turn secondary work, erected obviously after the northern towers and walls of the original (thirteenth century) *enceinte* had been cast down. The destruction of the latter portions would thus be assignable to the dismantling of the castle after Bannockburn, and the building of the transverse wall and Hamilton Tower would come in as the work of John de Kilburne (1336-7). To judge by its masonry, the closing of the breached donjon also belongs to this period. There is thus clear building evidence of two successive reconstructions, the last being assignable to Archibald the Grim. The same tale of a double reconstruction in the fourteenth century is revealed by the Hamilton Tower. Its lower, ashlar-built portion belongs to the original castle of the de Moravias. The upper, rubble-built part, with the drawbridge working against the court, was rebuilt in the first reconstruction; and, lastly, the drawbridge was taken out when Archibald the Grim's hall was built against the inner face of the tower. These two reconstructions are doubtless to be correlated with the two known "slightings" of the castle, in 1314 and in 1337. The congruity between the historical and the structural evidence seems complete.

<sup>1</sup> The work at Lincluden, however, is of slightly later character, much of the tracery being flamboyant, whereas at Bothwell Castle it is geometrical. There is heraldic evidence that the choir at Lincluden was not commenced until after 1409; the Princess Margaret tomb in the north wall, an integral part of the design, exhibits the arms of the lordship of Annandale, which was granted to the Douglasses in that year.

## IV. CONCLUSIONS.

Having thus completed our brief survey of the castle, we are now in a position to gather up the results, and to correlate the structural evidence as far as possible with the documentary data previously examined. From this procedure we arrive at an architectural history somewhat as follows (fig. 9).

1. The first demolition took place when the castle was captured after Bannockburn (1314). The damage then wrought consisted of (a) razing the whole northern portion, with the gatehouse, garderobe towers, and great north-eastern round tower: (b) throwing down the Hamilton Tower; (c) removing one-half of the donjon. From the fact

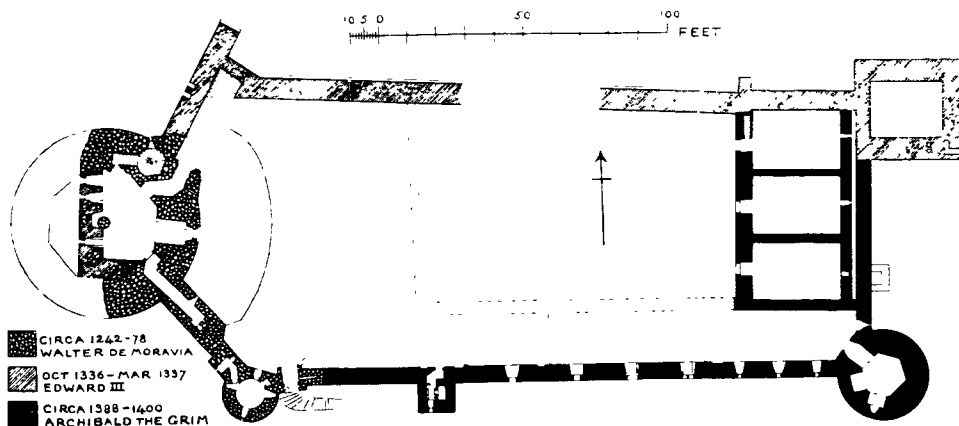


Fig. 9. Bothwell Castle: Key Plan.

that the original foundations remain everywhere undisturbed—both beneath the later rebuilding and also in the northern portions which were never restored—it is clear that the work of demolition was carried out from the wall-heads downwards. No attempt seems to have been made at undermining, as was done in the donjon of Coull Castle.<sup>1</sup>

2. In October 1336 the destroyed castle was occupied, repaired, and garrisoned by Edward III. The restorative works then carried out under John de Kilburne comprised (a) the closing of the breached donjon by a square consolidation: (b) drawing a transverse screen across the courtyard to connect up the broken ends of the east and west curtains, thus sacrificing the destroyed northern portion of the thirteenth-century *enceinte*: (c) rebuilding the square Hamilton Tower upon its old basement, and converting it into a keep to replace the

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. pp. 65-6.

old thirteenth-century donjon, which in its truncated state was no longer of use for such a purpose.<sup>1</sup> The conversion of the Hamilton Tower into a keep was achieved by building its inner face with a portal on the first floor, reached by a drawbridge, so that it was capable of isolation from the courtyard as the old donjon had been. This drawbridge was of the new type, with counterpoising apparatus, in contrast to the older and simpler windlass type used in the thirteenth-century donjon. Under these new arrangements the donjon seems to have been degraded into a prison, as the windows were all bored for iron stanchions.<sup>2</sup> The bold roundels on continuous corbelling, which were used to finish off the projecting end of the broken west curtain, and also to crown the garderobe buttress to the eastward, are usual in English work of the Edwardian period: for example, in the spur-work at Beaumaris Castle, the barbican turrets at Harlech Castle, the Bars at York, the bartisans at Belsay Castle, and elsewhere.<sup>3</sup> Similarly the crosslet loop at the west end of the transverse wall also belongs to a more developed type than the long, simple, or fan-tailed slits which occur in the thirteenth-century parts of the castle. The plain loop, fan-tailed or otherwise, is the usual one in Scottish castles of the thirteenth century, as at Kildrummy, Dirleton, Coull, Dunstaffnage, Rothesay, and Inverlochy.<sup>4</sup> Crosslet loops are very frequent in English work of the fourteenth century, but do not appear normally in Scotland until the succeeding century. The rebuilding of the Hamilton Tower was completed before the new north curtain was begun; indeed we may conjecture that the reconstruction of this tower, to form a strong and in itself defensible post, was the first task undertaken by John de Kilburne in his scheme of

<sup>1</sup> The persistence of the keep idea in the 1336 reconstruction is paralleled in certain English castles of the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, such as Flint, Kidwelly, Carnarvon, and possibly Harlech. Slezer's view (see *infra*, p. 191, note 2) shows how in the reconstructed castle the Hamilton Tower dominated the whole.

<sup>2</sup> J. Jeffrey Waddell in *Transactions of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society*, vol. iii. part i. (1909-10) p. 125.

<sup>3</sup> These great buttresses at Bothwell, with their open corbelled roundels, are unlike almost anything elsewhere in Scotland. The only feature at all resembling them is found at Struthers Castle in Fifeshire, where there are two buttresses with corbelled roundels above. But here the roundels are of small dimensions, being in fact merely the open bartisan or turret so usual in late Scottish work, while the buttresses have the stepped intakes of the sixteenth century. There is something not dissimilar also at the gatehouse of Spynie Castle, dating from the fifteenth century, and showing strong French influence.

<sup>4</sup> This is of course not to imply that fan-tailed loops may not be found in work of later periods. In point of fact this type of loop is not infrequently found in buildings of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, for example at David's Tower in Edinburgh Castle, erected in 1367-79 (see *Proceedings*, vol. xlviii. p. 235). There is an example in work of the same period in the east curtain at Bothwell Castle, just north of the Douglas Tower. The crosslet loophole is not found in France until the end of the thirteenth century, and does not become common until the fourteenth century. See Camille Enlart, *Manuel d'Archéologie Française*, vol. ii. pp. 468-9.

restoration. Thereafter the new north curtain was run across the open courtyard, starting from the broken west curtain (which was restored as an external buttress, affording with its bartisan and crosslet loop some flanking defence to the new curtain on this side), and carried over to abut without bond against the new keep-tower, in which tusk were left to engage the curtain. In this Edwardian reconstruction a hall was built, or at all events projected,<sup>1</sup> along the new north curtain, having at its lower or western end the kitchen (whose fireplace still remains), and communicating at its upper or dais end by the drawbridge with the new keep, in which would be the solar or lord's private rooms.

3. In March 1337 the castle was besieged, captured, and again dismantled by Sir Andrew de Moray. This time the destructive forces were exerted against the south rather than the north front. The whole of the south curtain east of the postern, with the original south-eastern tower, and the east curtain northward to the Hamilton Tower, were cast down. The upper portion of the Hamilton Tower itself was probably overthrown, as Slezer's drawing<sup>2</sup> shows it with an embattled parapet of later type.

4. Thereafter the castle seems to have lain waste, until towards the end of the fourteenth century<sup>3</sup> it was restored for the last time by Archibald the Grim. His work is clearly recognisable by its rich and very pronounced architectural characteristics. It comprised (a) the rebuilding of the destroyed south curtain, east of the postern (over which he set his coat of arms), and including the Garderobe and Douglas Towers; (b) the rebuilding of the east curtain between the Douglas Tower and the Hamilton Tower, and also, apparently, the upper part of the latter tower; and (c) the erection of new domestic buildings, comprising a hall against the east curtain, with chapel

<sup>1</sup> Bearing in mind the shortness of the second English occupation, we may believe that this hall was never completed, but at all events provision would be made for it in the wall against which it was to stand. So also at Carnarvon Castle, fireplaces, etc., are provided in the curtains to serve interior buildings which were never actually built.

<sup>2</sup> J. Slezer, *Theatrum Scotiæ*, 1693, ed. J. Jamieson, 1814, pl. 57. The plate is rather crude, and the engraver does not appear always to have understood the draughtsman. The drawing shows three gables belonging to the partition walls still traceable in the range of buildings against the south curtain, also the gables of another building, set at right angles between the postern and the garderobe tower. Some foundations of this building were visible in the last century. The drawing also indicates how the north curtain was raised over the entrance and crowned with bartisans, forming a kind of gatehouse, as at Earl Archibald's other Castle of Threave. Although published in 1693, the drawing may have been made a good many years earlier, since Slezer was working on his book at least as early as 1678. See article in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

<sup>3</sup> The style of Earl Archibald's work indicates a date well on towards the end of the century. The earliest charter granted by him from Bothwell Castle seems to be dated 8th November 1388 (Fraser, *Douglas Book*, vol. iii. p. 400). This would indicate that the castle had at least been made habitable by that date.

adjoining it to the southward. The curtain walls and Douglas Tower were first built, windows and other provision being made in the former for the chapel, which was the next portion to be erected; and, lastly, the hall was built with its dais end butting against the back wall of the chapel. A garderobe in the buttress of the north curtain, surviving from the Edwardian hall, was made available for the new one, a new access being provided to it, and the adjoining face of the curtain being rebuilt. By this time the idea of a keep had been abandoned in military construction—as shown at the contemporary Castles of Doune, Tantallon, and Caerlaverock<sup>1</sup>—and so here also at Bothwell the keep-like character of the Hamilton Tower was obliterated, its drawbridge was taken out and the new hall was built across its portal.

The latest record of building operations at the castle seems to be found in an entry in the Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland under the year 1544, wherein a sum of £40 is noted of expenses upon the Castles of Bothwell and Letham.<sup>2</sup> It does not seem possible now to trace any work of this late period among the ruins.

A final question is suggested by a passage in a "Description of the Paroch of Bothwell," written about 1725, wherein it is remarked that "the castle was once a very great and stately structure of a very fine and curious workmanship, but is now altogether ruinous, much defac'd by length of time and some considerable part of it thrown down by the late Earl of Forfar, who from the ruines thereof built a very handsome new house."<sup>3</sup> Mr G. S. Aitken evolved the strange idea that the "considerable part" thus thrown down was the northern portion of the *enceinte*. But this idea will not hold water for a moment. That the northern walls and towers were destroyed before the building of the later transverse screen is clear both from the logic of the screen itself and also decisively from the way in which the projecting part of the old west curtain, outside the transverse screen, has been finished off and crowned with a bartisan. This work could only have been done after the curtain of which the projection is a remnant had been destroyed, and the salient stump left as a buttress-like structure outside the later enclosing wall. By pulling down the Hamilton Tower, the gatehouse in the transverse curtain, and the interior buildings against the south curtain, all of which were standing when Slezer made his

<sup>1</sup> For these keepless castles of *enceinte* in the later fourteenth century, see my paper on "The Scottish Castle" in *Scottish Historical Association Publications*, new series, No. 1, p. 5. In England apparently the latest instance of the survival of the donjon or keep is the Eagle Tower at Carnarvon Castle, built in 1285-91.

<sup>2</sup> *Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland*, vol. viii, p. 299.

<sup>3</sup> Macfarlane's *Geographical Collections*, ed. Sir A. Mitchell (Scottish History Society), vol. i, p. 417.

drawing, Lord Forfar would obtain amply sufficient material for his new house.<sup>1</sup>

One word of a personal nature may perhaps be pardoned in conclusion. Before I had worked up the documentary side of this inquiry, I was already convinced, from my study of the building, that there had been two reconstructions before the end of the fourteenth century. This view afterwards received satisfactory confirmation in the twice-chronicled dismantling of the castle, first in 1314 and again in 1337. When we begin with the evidence of record it is often seductively easy to fit in the architectural phenomena. But when we start at the opposite end, when we find that conclusions drawn from an unbiassed inspection of the structure are borne out by subsequent historical research, there is all the stronger presumption that we have reasoned along sound lines.

For permission to reproduce the photographs at figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8 I am indebted to H.M. Office of Works, through Mr James S. Richardson, F.S.A.Scot., Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland. Fig. 4 is reproduced from a photograph by the late Mr John Fleming, F.S.A.Scot., and fig. 6 is taken from an old photograph in my own possession. To Mr Thomas Ross, LL.D., H.R.S.A., F.S.A.Scot., I am indebted for his kind permission to base my measured drawings on those prepared by himself and his colleague, Dr David MacGibbon, for their great work on *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland*. I am also obliged to Dr Ross for permission to reproduce the illustration at fig. 1 from a drawing by Dr MacGibbon. I have to record my grateful thanks to Mr William Norrie, F.S.A.Scot., and Mr Thornton L. Taylor, who kindly gave me assistance in making my survey.

<sup>1</sup> The plate of the courtyard given in J. Hall's *Travels in Scotland*, 1807, vol. i. p. 570, shows it in the same condition as at present.

In Hall's account occurs the following statement:—"In one part this enormous mass, crushing its foundations, though of rock, fell, walls and rock together, into the Clyde. The breach in the foundations was repaired and the wall rebuilt." Anyone unacquainted with the reverend traveller's literary style would expect from this tremendous language to find in the castle evidences of an extensive catastrophe and subsequent repair. As a matter of fact, there seems to be no trace of modern rebuilding anywhere in the south curtain. Possibly the part that fell may have been in the western consolidation of the donjon, large portions of which have clearly disappeared. There is evidence of extensive patching, not of very recent date, on the cross-section of the breached south wall of the donjon.



## IV.

INTERIM REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS OF THE ROMAN FORT  
AT MUMRILLS, NEAR FALKIRK. BY GEORGE MACDONALD,  
C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., D.LITT., F.S.A.Scot., AND ALEXANDER O. CURLE,  
F.S.A.Scot.

The site of the Fort of Mumrills has for some years been known to occupy portions of two fields on the ridge extending eastward from the village of Laurieston, near Falkirk. The ground is valuable agricultural land, and, consequently, such an extensive continuous excavation as is desirable cannot be undertaken. By the kindness of the farmer, however, the Society has now been able on two occasions to conduct exploration.

Work was commenced on the westmost of the two fields in the winter of 1923, and continued on a limited area until the commencement of August 1924. With the removal of the crop in late November of last year, further excavation was made possible in the eastmost of the two fields, and this proceeded without interruption until the ground was required for agricultural purposes in the end of February.

The result of the excavations has been to reveal three, if not four, systems of ditches, which so far have only been explored in the western or Castletowrie field. The limited area of ground on which we were able to work during the summer of 1924 did not enable us to examine, with any degree of thoroughness, more than the defences of the Antonine Fort. These were found to have consisted of a rampart, probably made of clay, and raised on a cradling of quarried stone, with two ditches in front of it on the south side and, seemingly, three on the west. Where the rampart forms a junction with that of the Antonine vallum, the remains of a small circular turret were discovered. The western gateway was located, and presented certain features of interest. Between the ends of the rampart on each side of the road was a deep pit, some 11 feet in length, 3 feet 6 inches in depth from the surface-level of Roman times, and the same in breadth, filled with boulders embedded in clay, possibly the foundation of some stone structure which had formed part of the gateway.

The work which was carried on during the winter months of 1924-5 in the eastmost of the two fields was productive of valuable results; the foundations of the Principia were laid bare, and gave conclusive evidence of, at least, two periods of reconstruction, the

dimensions of the earliest of the structures showing a headquarters building, probably as large as, if not larger, than any other found in Britain. Flanking this foundation on either side were the sites of two long buttressed buildings. That on the west was reduced to the absolute foundations; that on the east, however, in portions, showed the wall still standing to a height of 3 feet.

In the excavation of 1924 a considerable amount of pottery was recovered, the bulk of it of the Antonine period, but a few pieces, probably, referable to the earlier or Agricolan period. Other relics comprise a bow fibula of unusual type, a knee fibula, a small penannular brooch in fragments, two small rings, and an enamelled stud, all of bronze. Objects of iron were more numerous, and include two keys, a socketed spear-head, a knife with a heavy triangular blade, a pointed socket, possibly the butt end of a spear-shaft, an ox-goad, numerous nails, and several clamps or cleats.

Relics were remarkably scarce in the excavation of the Principia and the buttressed buildings. Very little pottery came to light, but there were found a number of pieces of burnt daub showing the impression of wattles, indicating that on the site, in some period of occupation, wattle and daub construction had been employed. A small dress-fastener, beautifully enamelled, was almost the only object of importance recovered. The coins found during the two seasons number eight in all, and belong chiefly to the second century, the latest being a "second brass" of Pius of A.D. 151.

MONDAY, 13th April 1925.

JOHN BRUCE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

Rev. Professor J. H. BAXTER, B.D., St Mary's College, St Andrews.

JOHN W. BURNSIDE, M.A., 3 Oxford Street.

WILLIAM COOPER, Langholm, South Drive, Harrogate.

Lady DOBBIE, 10 Learmonth Terrace.

THOMAS WILSON FISH, J.P., M.Inst.N.A., Kirklands, Dunbar.

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF HOME, The Hirsell, Coldstream.

DONALD MAC EWEN, Victoria Villas, 15 Glenurquhart Road, Inverness.

JAMES GEORGE MARWICK, T.D., Major R.G.A. (T.A.R.), Graham Place, Stromness, Orkney.

Rev. JAMES WILSON MUGGOCH, B.D., Logie Manse, Dundee.

ALEXANDER PATIENCE, Jesmond, Sandyhills, Shettleston, Glasgow.

GEORGE MACAULAY SOUTER, M.A., Donaldson's Hospital.

WILLIAM STEVENSON STORIE, L.A., S.S.C., N.P., 9 Merchiston Crescent.

There was exhibited by Mrs A. E. Nelson, F.S.A.Scot., a mediæval iconographical Gold Finger Ring of St George.

In a note forwarding the ring Mrs Nelson stated that this English fifteenth-century ring was, previous to its acquisition by her, in the Rosenheim collection. Upon the oval horizontal bezel is engraved St George standing on the dragon. The saint is clad in complete plate and wears a pig-snouted bascinet, with pendant camail; he holds in both hands his spear, which he thrusts into the monster. St George was very popular in England in the Middle Ages, becoming Patron of England in 1222, displacing St Edward the Confessor. The Emperor Sigismund, on his installation as K.G., 24th May 1416, gave to St George's Chapel, Windsor, a very notable relic of the saint—his hand—which was preserved therein as late as the reign of Henry VIII.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By Sir ANDREW N. AGNEW, Bart., Vice-President.

Massive stone Hammer, measuring  $10\frac{7}{16}$  inches in length,  $5\frac{1}{8}$  inches in breadth, and  $3\frac{5}{16}$  inches in thickness, and Axe of felstone, measuring  $7\frac{5}{8}$  inches in length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in breadth, and  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches in thickness, found on Lochnaw Estate, Wigtownshire.

(2) By A. NICOL SIMPSON, F.Z.S., Whinhurst, Fordoun.

Eight Communion Tokens—Arbuthnott, Dunottar, Fordoun, Fordyce, Kinneff, and Glenbervie.

(3) By Mrs YOUNGER, Ravenswood, Melrose.

Set of Bagpipes, the drones of which have deep cup-shaped terminals, the back drone having a horn mount at the end, and the other two ivory or bone mounts. The mouthpiece and blow-pipe are of later date than the drones, as is also the stock. The chanter also is later, and bears the maker's name, *Dn. McDougall, Breadalbane*. The bag is contained in a Black Watch tartan cover, and there is a Royal Stuart tartan ribbon of silk attached to the drones.

The donor bought the set from Donald Ross, Jeweller, Golspie, in August 1917. The story attached to them is that they were played by George Mackay at Waterloo, afterwards by his son James Mackay, an old piper in Dunrobin Glen, who played them at the entry of George IV. into Edinburgh, and passed them on to Pipe-Major David Sutherland, whose brother sold them to Donald Ross.

(4) By F. C. B. CADELL, F.S.A.Scot.

Two Cannon Balls of iron, measuring  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter, found in the neighbourhood of the battlefield of Prestonpans. The first was found in the east field at Cockenzie, about the year 1830. The second was picked up at the old Castle of Dolphingston, near Prestonpans, and was given by the gardener there to William Cadell, Esq., of Tranent, grandfather of the donor, in 1838.

(5) By Rev. G. N. WARNER, F.S.A.Scot.

Communion Token—Bervie, 1833.

The following Donations of Books to the Library were intimated:—

(1) By HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

Register of the Privy Council of Scotland. Vol. IX. 1684. Third Series.

(2) By GEORGE T. FLOM, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Illinois, U.S.A., the Author.

A Recently Discovered Stone Sculpture in Oland, Sweden. Reprinted from *The American Anthropologist*, vol. xxiv., No. 4.

Figures of Ships and the Four-spoked Wheel in Ancient Irish Sculpture. Reprinted from *The American Anthropologist*, vol. xxv., No. 3.

Sun-Symbols of the Tomb-Sculptures at Loughcrew, Ireland, illustrated by similar figures in Scandinavian Rock Tracings. Reprinted from *The American Anthropologist*, vol. xxvi., No. 2.

(3) By the DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, Sofia, Bulgaria.  
Guide to the National Museum at Sofia.

(4) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot.  
The Antiquity of Man. By Sir Arthur Keith. 2 vols. London, 1925.

The following Communications were read:—

# I.

THE MUTINY STONES, BERWICKSHIRE. By JAMES HEWAT  
CRAW, F.S.A.Scot.

The only long cairn in the south-east of Scotland is that known as the Mutiny Stones in the parish of Longformacus, Berwickshire. In Dumfriesshire, almost fifty miles off, is the long cairn on Windy Edge, figured and described in the *Inventory*<sup>1</sup> of that county. To the north we do not find another cairn of this type till we come to that near Gourdon, Kincardineshire, described last year by Mr Graham Callander;<sup>2</sup> in the present volume, pp. 21-26, three more in Aberdeenshire and Banffshire have been recorded by Mr Callander. In the recently delivered Rhind Lectures Professor Bryce pointed out that only five are known in the east of Scotland, south of the county of Naïrn.

The earliest mention of this monument is the occurrence of the name "Mitten full of Stones" on Armstrong's *Map of the County of Berwick*, 1771. The name Mutiny Stones, employed in the *New Statistical Account*, 1841, and since then generally used in reference to the monument, is probably a corruption of the older form "Mitten" of which the origin remains unexplained.<sup>3</sup> Lady John Scott employed the name

<sup>1</sup> No. 47.

<sup>2</sup> *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. lviii. p. 23.

<sup>3</sup> A local legend tells how the devil was carrying stones in his mitten from Dunbar to build a dam across the Tweed at Kelso, when the mitten burst and the stones fell on the moor. There is also a tale of gold wrapped in the hide of an ox and buried beneath the cairn. In other parts of Scotland a similar origin is attributed to isolated boulders. The name "Auld wife's apron fu' o' stanes" occurs near Kirknewton in the Cheviots.

"Deil's Mitten,"<sup>1</sup> and Mr Browne,<sup>2</sup> while using "Mutiny Stones," mentions that to the old people in the district the monument was the "Mittenfu' Stanes." It is easy to see how "Mittenfu'" or "Mitten o'" was corrupted into "Mutiny," and also how the latter in MS. became mistaken for "Meeting."<sup>3</sup>

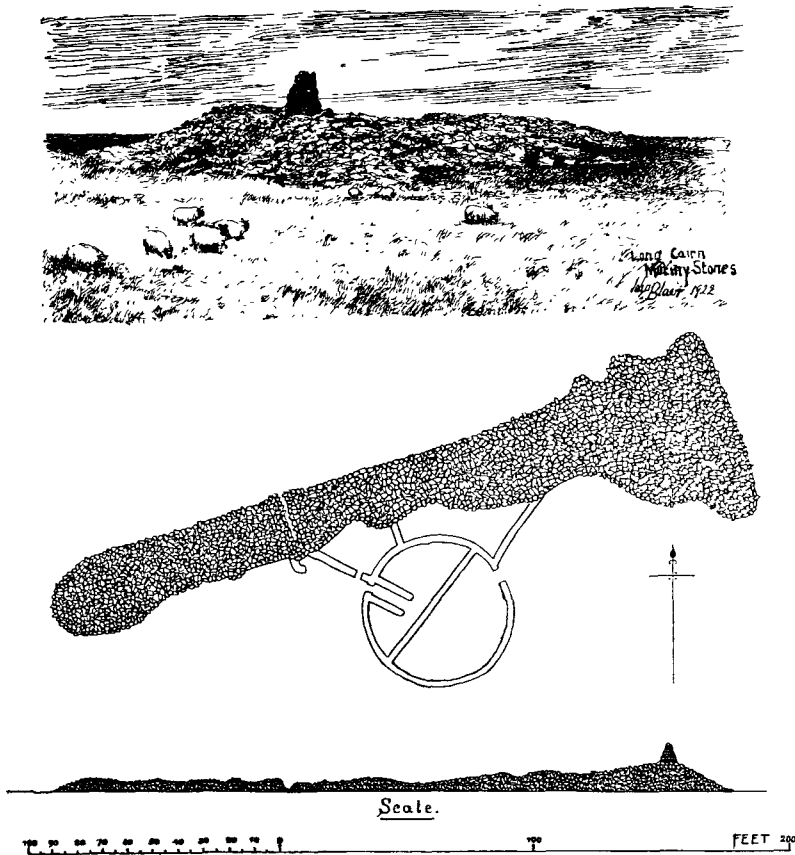


Fig. 1. Long Cairn—"The Mutiny Stones": View from north-east, with Plan.  
Reproduced by permission of Berwickshire Naturalists' Club.

The cairn (fig. 1) is situated on the side of a moorland ridge, the ground sloping gently to the south-east. It is some 1200 yards north-north-west of the shooting-lodge at Byrecleugh, and within 700 yards of the East Lothian boundary; the Byre Burn, 160 yards to the east,

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. Ber. Nat. Club*, vol. vi. p. 11, 1869. The derivation "Deil's Midden" (refuse-heap) suggests itself.

<sup>2</sup> *Glimpses into the Past in Lammermuir*, p. 76, 1892.

<sup>3</sup> "Meeting Stones" in Sharp, Greenwood, and Fovler's *Map of the County of Berwick*, 1826.

descends to join the Dye Water at Byrecleugh. The elevation is 1250 feet above sea-level, and the axis points approximately east by north.

The length of the cairn is 278 feet. Near the east end the breadth is 76 feet and the height  $11\frac{1}{2}$  feet; these measurements diminish westwards to 26 and 3 feet. The height given in the first *Statistical Account* (1792) and repeated in the *New Statistical Account* (1841)<sup>1</sup> is 18 feet: this probably included the later conical cairn erected on the highest point. The cairn at present contains probably some 1300 cart-loads of stones, and several hundreds of loads have been removed along its south side, doubtless for walls and buildings near Byrecleugh; modern sheep-folds also have been built close to the cairn at its south side. The stones of which the cairn is composed are surface-gathered slabs and boulders of greenstone found in the vicinity: few require the strength of more than one man to lift.

The general appearance of the monument suggests an affinity with the long cairns of the north of Scotland; but though there are slight lateral projections at the east end, there are no definite forward extensions as in the horned cairns of the north. An excavation by Lady John Scott in 1871 failed to reveal anything of interest.

With a view to obtaining information for his approaching Rhind Lectures on "The Anthropological History of the Scottish People," Dr Bryce applied to His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe for permission to examine the cairn. This was readily granted. Having obtained the sanction of the Ancient Monuments Board for the investigation, Dr Bryce asked me to superintend and carry out the excavation of the cairn. We visited the spot together and discussed the methods of work, and I then made arrangements to begin operations. Several members of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club willingly gave their services.

On 1st July 1924 a party of seven workers<sup>2</sup> began operations by carrying a trench (fig. 2) 12 feet in width along the axis of the cairn from the east end. The stones were carried back beyond the boundary of the cairn. In this trench were found three stones set upright in the ground, in a line parallel to, and some 4 feet to the south of, the axis; the stones projected from the ground from 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet. At 22 feet from the east end a wall was uncovered running at right angles to the axis for a distance of 14 feet. This wall (fig. 3) consisted of ten slabs set upright in the ground, from which they projected some 18 inches; smaller slabs were set to fill the interspaces and to steady the larger

<sup>1</sup> See also *Berwickshire Inventory*, No. 249; *Hist. Ber. Nat. Club*, vol. xxiv, p. 155 (plate xiv. A), 1920; *Lauder and Lauderdale* (Thompson), p. 14, 1904.

<sup>2</sup> Present: Colonel Molesworth, Messrs Minchin, C. W. Calder, N. Sanderson, J. H. Craw, and two chauffeurs. The work involved a motor journey of twelve miles from Duns to Kilpallet over a very hilly road, and a farther walk of two miles across the moor.

stones. The ten slabs measured from 11 to 23 inches in breadth and from 4 to 6 inches in thickness. Above these slabs rude masonry had been carried up a farther height of 2 feet. Close to the east of this wall it was noticed that the stones had been more carefully placed than elsewhere in the cairn.

On 7th July work was resumed, Dr Bryce and Mr J. Cospatrick

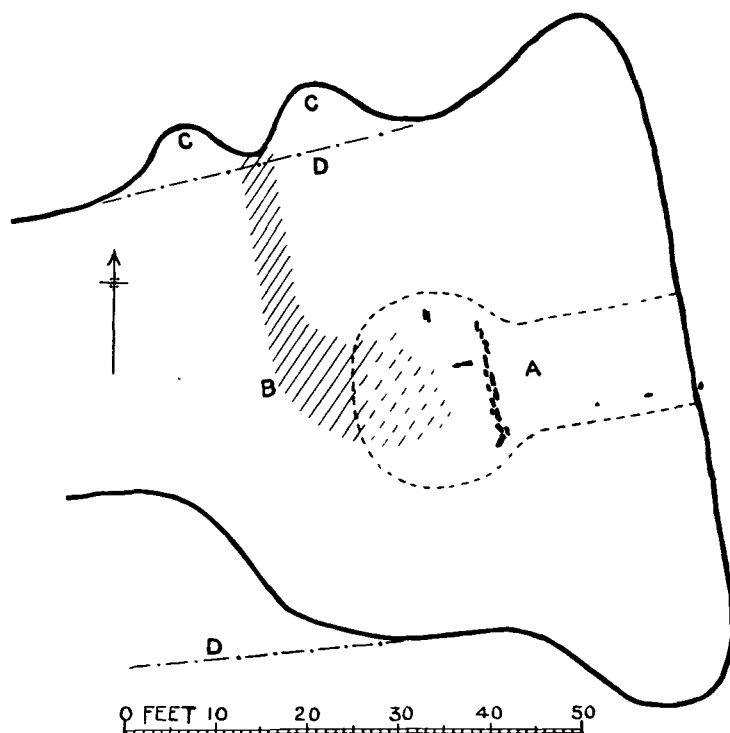


Fig. 2. Plan of east end of Long Cairn—"The Mutiny Stones," Berwickshire.

A, 1924 excavation ; B, 1871 excavation (probable extent); C, stones removed from B ;  
D, original outline.

Scott, chamberlain to the Duke of Roxburghe, being present.<sup>1</sup> A further area was laid bare extending 14 feet to the east of the wall and beyond its north and south extremities. The cairn over most of this area had the appearance of having been disturbed. At a distance of 5 feet 5 inches to the west of the north end of the wall two upright slabs had been inserted in the ground face to face, with their axes parallel to the line of the wall. Five feet south of the north end of the wall

<sup>1</sup> Together with Colonel Molesworth, Messrs Minchin, N. Sanderson, J. T. Craw, J. H. Craw, Captain and Mrs M'Dougal, Miss Darling, and two chauffeurs.



two slabs projected from the ground at right angles to the wall and 13 inches from it. In the area to the south of these two slabs, as far as the south end of the wall, were several large slabs placed indiscriminately, as if disturbed from their original setting; similar slabs occurred in the upper portions of the cairn near this part; these had probably been removed upwards in the course of an earlier excavation.

The ground beneath the cairn was turned over in this area until the reddish-yellow subsoil was reached, but no trace of charcoal, bones, flint, pottery, or other relics was found.



Fig. 3. Long Cairn—"The Mutiny Stones": Part of Wall running across the Cairn.

On 14th July I returned to the ground with eight unemployed labourers. Farther excavation at either end of the wall, and at points along the periphery of the cairn, failed to reveal any signs of construction. The cairn was then restored to its original state; it was not thought desirable to replace the modern pile of stones at the east end, as this was no part of the original monument.

Since the excavation I am indebted to Miss Margaret Warrender for an extract from the diary of her mother, Lady Warrender, the sister of Lady John Scott. This description of the excavation of 1871 shows that the work was carefully superintended, and that the same conclusion as to earlier disturbance was reached. A trench seems at this time to have

been cut across the cairn at the lowest part near the middle, and another carried in to the axis from the north near the highest part; the latter excavation being carried east along the axis and joining with the area excavated as described above. There were present Lady John Scott, Sir George and Lady Warrender, Lady Rosehill, her sister Miss Elliot, Dr John Stuart, and Rev. J. M. Joass, Golspie; the number of workmen is not stated.

“*Monday, July 10, 1871.*—In spite of the weather, we went to Byre-leugh. It was a perfect downpour, so we sat in the carriage, while the men moved the stones according to Dr Stuart's directions. After luncheon it cleared, and we took a walk to see some other stones, of which Dr Stuart did not think much; and then returned to the Mitten, where by this time they had got down a considerable distance under the cairn, without however coming to anything. Dr Stuart thinks that the cairn has been disturbed before; and that from the marks that may be traced in the heather, it has been very much larger than it now is; and that a great portion of the stones have been used to build the folds and *stells* of which there are a good many near. In this manner, whatever may have been there originally, has long since been removed or destroyed.”

The results obtained from the recent excavation were disappointingly meagre, and would have been quite barren save for the discovery of the structural feature described. What this walling signifies is not quite obvious. As Dr Bryce pointed out, the feature revealed differentiates the cairn from the type of megalithic tomb with which he is specially familiar in the south-west of Scotland. The wall cannot have been part of a segmented chamber of the Arran type. Nor can it be considered as representing any part of a chamber or of an approach passage placed in the long axis of the cairn, such as exists in the typical chambered cairns of the north or in the cairn at Achnacree in Argyllshire. The most probable interpretation of the arrangement is that it represents the remains of a chamber placed transversely to the axis and opening by a passage from the side of the cairn. A small chamber, with a low and narrow approach passage, so disposed and in much the same position as in the Berwickshire Cairn, was disclosed in a long-horned cairn at Camster, Caithness, by Dr Joseph Anderson<sup>1</sup> (No. 563, *Caithness Inventory*). Another example is the cairn at Heathercro, Bower parish, Caithness (No. 5, *Caithness Inventory*), excavated by Sir Francis Tress Barry. “A five-sided undivided chamber formed of flags set on end was found in the mound at the north-east end” of the cairn, into which a passage led from the south-east side. If this comparison be admitted, it would seem that the Mutiny Stones has closer affinities with the chambered cairns of the north than with those in the south-west corner

<sup>1</sup> *Scotland in Pagan Times, Bronze and Stone Ages*, p. 241.

of Scotland. But in any event, the walling disclosed in the excavation proves that it must be included in the category of the long cairns, which enclosed chambers of one sort or another, and which have as yet yielded only relics of the stone phase of culture.

In conclusion I have to record our thanks to His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe for permission to examine the cairn, and to all those who shared in the arduous work of excavation.

## II.

NOTES ON (1) A BRONZE AGE GRAVE AT CRAIGSCORRY, BEAULY, INVERNESS-SHIRE, AND (2) TWO URNS FROM ABERDEENSHIRE.  
By J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, F.S.A.Scot., DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.

About the middle of January of this year there appeared in certain newspapers an account of the opening of a grave on the farm of Craigsorry, about two miles south-west of Beaulay, which, if correct, would have constituted a remarkable record of discoveries made in a Scottish prehistoric burial deposit. It was stated that the grave was hewn out of the rock, and that there were found in it the remains of a human skeleton—the skull and the larger limb bones being in good condition though soft and crumbling when handled—a bronze sword broken in two, a particularly fine spear-head of flint, and a specially good arrow-head of the same material, with its shaft complete. The report that the sepulchral chamber was cut in the rock was surprising enough, as this is quite contrary to past experience of Scottish Bronze Age burials; but the statements that a bronze sword and a flint arrow-head in its shaft had been recovered were even more surprising, as there is no authentic record of either of these classes of weapons having been found in a grave in Scotland.<sup>1</sup> Certainly flint arrow-heads have not infrequently been found in our Bronze Age and Stone Age interments; but there is only one record of a flint arrow-head in its wooden shaft having been found in the country, and it was found in a moss at Blackhillock, Fyvie, Aberdeenshire,<sup>2</sup> under 8 to 10 feet of peat.

As it was desirable that these relics should be secured for the nation, the King's Remembrancer took action to recover them, and they are now in the National Museum, the finder being suitably rewarded.

<sup>1</sup> In the first reports it was also stated that there was a "Druidical temple" near the grave, but this turned out to be a rectangular structure of slabs erected last century.

<sup>2</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xi. p. 508.

When the relics were received at the Museum they were found to consist of fragments of what seemed to be a small, pointed bronze blade, certainly not parts of a sword, two other small pieces of bronze, a barbed and stemmed arrow-head without its shaft, and a knife, not a spear-head, of flint, the last two objects being calcined.

The four largest fragments of bronze seem originally to have fitted together, and, as arranged in the illustration (fig. 1, No. 1), form part of a pointed implement with a stout rounded midrib of flattish section, the total length of these parts being  $4\frac{1}{8}$  inches. Measuring from the centre of the midrib near the broader end to the greatest projecting part of the edge one sees that the blade has been more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch broad. The edges are broken, and the butt end, which would have indicated the true character of the implement, is wanting. While the weapon bears a slight resemblance to an imperfect dagger blade found with cinerary urns and other objects, including several flints, in a cairn at Gilchorn, Forfarshire,<sup>1</sup> it approximates more to the shape of the pointed end of some of our more massive halbert blades. Still, this identification is doubtful, as there are faint traces of a hollow moulding near the edge of one of the pieces running obliquely to the centre of the midrib, and this might be considered as indicating a dagger.

The two other pieces of bronze (fig. 1, No. 2), measuring  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length respectively by  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch in greatest breadth, are flat, and show a distinct shallow groove, nearly  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch broad, running down the centre of each on both sides. It is doubtful whether they are the remains of a second implement or whether they have been broken off the edge near the butt of the one just described.

As for the flints, the arrow-head (fig. 1, No. 3) is a fair specimen of the barbed and stemmed variety, but part of the point and of one of the barbs is broken off. It now measures  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in length and  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch in breadth. The knife (fig. 1, No. 4) has convex edges, a rounded blunt point, and a flat base; it is of crescentic section, the flaking being confined to the curved face. It measures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in greatest breadth, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in greatest thickness.

As it was important that a correct report of the phenomena connected with the find should be drawn up, especially as the original account which was inaccurate in some of its details had received such wide currency, I got into communication with Mr Peter Stewart, the farmer at Craigsorry, and his son Mr James Stewart who had opened the grave, and later on was enabled, through their courtesy, to visit the site before the burial-place was filled in, and get a reliable account of the discovery.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. xxv. p. 447.



Fig. 1. Objects of Bronze and Flint from a Grave at Craigsorry,  
Inverness-shire. (1.)

Craigscorry farm lies well up the rugged hill-side rising from the left bank of the river Beaully, and the position of the grave is near the eastern edge of a rocky, wooded knoll, on the summit of a slight ridge, about 150 yards south-east of the dwelling-house on the farm. The view from this spot, which lies within a few feet of the 300-foot contour line, is particularly fine, as the eastern side of the knoll drops steeply for some 50 feet before falling more gradually to the bank of the river, about half a mile distant. To the east and south is a magnificent stretch of mountainous country, while towards the north is seen the inner end of the Beaully Firth with the Black Isle beyond.

The existence of the grave was suspected from the presence of a rough slab of conglomerate, about 4 feet square and 1 foot 3 inches thick, which protruded about 3 inches above the surface of the ground. On being lifted, this proved to be the cover stone of a grave cut out of the conglomerate rock to an average depth of more than 2 feet. The cavity was oval in shape, the main axis running 50° east of north and west of south magnetic, about north-east by north and south-west by south. It measured 7 feet in length and 4 feet in breadth, the rock cutting being 3 feet deep on the west side, 2 feet 6 inches on the east side and at the south end, and 1 foot 9 inches at the north end. Between the rock and the cover stone the walls of the grave had been built up with boulders and blocks of stone, measuring from 6 inches in length upwards, the largest being about 1 foot 9 inches square and 1 foot thick. The largest stones were found at the ends, where there was more building than at the sides.

When the cover stone was removed, the grave was found to be full of gravelly soil. At the bottom of the cavity were the remains of a human skeleton, the skull lying near the north end facing the east, and the rest of the bones extending towards the south end. The fragments of bronze and the two flint implements were found on the east side of the grave in front of the arms of the skeleton. Mr Stewart stated that the leg and arm bones, as well as the skull, were fairly complete when first exposed, but that they broke up and crumbled away on being handled. At the time of my visit I found a handful of fragments of bone, including a part of the skull, about 1 inch square, showing the sutures. These had certainly been burnt, although the incineration was not complete. From the condition of the remaining pieces of bone, and from the fact that the flints were calcined, it would appear that this had been an interment after cremation. Although the flint implements clearly showed that they had passed through the fire, the condition of the fragments of bronze did not indicate that they had been similarly treated. When found, the edges were complete, and

the objects do not show the twisting and contortion seen on a fragment of a small bronze blade, preserved in the Museum, which was found in a cinerary urn at Cambusbarrow, Stirlingshire,<sup>1</sup> and which had evidently been submitted to the action of fire. The association of calcined flints with bronze implements which have not been burnt in the same grave, as at Craigsorry, is not the first record of such an occurrence in Scotland, because one of the flints in the Gilchorn find, already referred to, was burnt, while the bronze implements had not suffered in this way.

Dr W. Douglas Simpson, F.S.A.Scot., has brought to my notice, and supplied descriptions of, a beaker and a food-vessel found many years ago in Aberdeenshire. A photograph of the beaker is shown, and through the courtesy of Rear-Admiral Walter Lumsden of Pitcaple the food-vessel is exhibited.

#### BEAKER FOUND NEAR ELRICK HILL, ABERDEENSHIRE.

Some time previous to 1850 an urn of beaker type was found in a cist upon a farm near Elrick Hill, parish of Newhills, Aberdeenshire. It was for many years in the possession of Major Campbell of Cloghill, Countesswells, Aberdeenshire, and was thereafter acquired by Mr A. Rudolf Galloway, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., C.M., F.S.A.Scot., Aberdeen, by whose courtesy I am privileged to submit the following account of the vessel. Dr Galloway has now presented it to the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, University of Aberdeen.

The beaker (fig. 2) is of a shape frequently found in Scotland, and measures  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height,  $4\frac{7}{10}$  inches in greatest external diameter at the mouth,  $4\frac{1}{3}$  inches in diameter at the bulging middle, and 3 inches in diameter at the base. The walls are about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in thickness, of a well-levigated, buff-coloured clay full of glistening white mica flakes: the interior shows a darker and more earthy tint.

A zig-zag pattern appears on the rim, reaching a short way down the inside and the outside of the vessel. Immediately below this, on the exterior, a broad zone of ornament extends to just beneath the constricted neck. This zone is bounded on top by a double horizontal line, at bottom by a single horizontal line, and is divided into three bands by two double horizontal lines. Cross-hatching fills the upper and lower bands, and the central band contains a double-chevron or zig-zag pattern. Another zone of ornament commences just above the medial bulge of the vessel, and extends thence about half way down to its base. Above and below it is bounded by a single horizontal line, and is divided by two

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. v. p. 213.

double horizontal lines into three compartments, containing (from above downwards) a zig-zag pattern, cross hatching, and a chevron pattern. At the base of the vessel appears a third zone of ornament, bounded above by a single horizontal line, and containing a zig-zag pattern. All the above enrichment has been made with a notched instrument, producing minute septal divisions in the strokes and lines. The setting out of the horizontal lines is somewhat irregular.

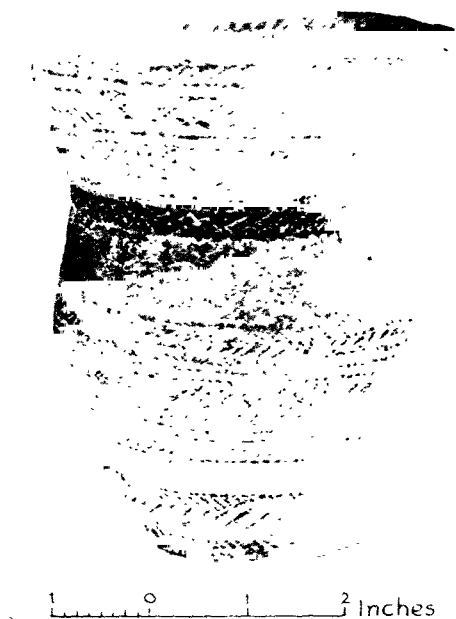


Fig. 2. Beaker found near Elrick Hill, Aberdeenshire.

The urn is slightly cracked on the side and base, but has been repaired and is otherwise in excellent condition. The description "cinerary urn" has been wrongly painted on the plain band between the two upper zones of enrichment.

#### FOOD-VESSEL FROM PITCAPLE.

This vessel was found more than fifty years ago in digging for the foundations of an ice-house about 350 yards west of Pitcaple Castle, parish of Chapel of Garioch, Aberdeenshire. The urn (fig. 3) is of unusual



shape, as the relative height to the breadth is greater than generally seen in food-vessels, and its slightly projecting lip is uncommon. Also, it is of very stout make, the wall and base being thicker than usual. From the narrow base the sides expand upwards for about half its height. Here a slight ridge surrounds the body, and over this a hollow



Fig. 3. Food-vessel from Pitcaple, Aberdeenshire.

band which is terminated above by another ridge, from which the sides of the neck are slightly indrawn under a heavy projecting brim. The vessel measures  $4\frac{7}{8}$  inches in height,  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter at the base, 5 inches at the lower ridge in the wall, and 5 inches across the mouth. The upper surface of the brim is flat, measures  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch broad, and is ornamented by five rows of impressions of a twisted cord. A similar pattern of eighteen rows, rather irregularly spaced, covers the body of the vessel as far down as the lower edge of the lower ridge. The material of the urn is a dark brown clay with minute flakes of mica mixed in it.

Preserved at Pitcaple Castle is also a small socketed bronze axe, the loop and part of the socket as well as the cutting edge having wasted away. It was found in a so-called Roman Camp which lies about 450 yards west-north-west of the Castle. It measures  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches long,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in breadth below the mouth of the socket, and  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch across the cutting edge. There is a slight moulding round the socket and a smaller one below, while there are faint indications of a vertical rib in the middle of each lateral face.

### III.

VARIATIONS OF THE DOG LOCK FOUND ON SCOTTISH FIRE-  
ARMS OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY. BY CHARLES E.  
WHITELAW, F.I.A.RCHTS.SCOT., F.S.A.SCOT.

During the last few years I have had the opportunity of examining some rare examples of Scottish firearms of the latter half of the seventeenth century, belonging to a type that I have not been able to deal with sufficiently in my past writings on this subject. I refer to those weapons fitted with what is known as the Dog Lock. Before going into details, I would draw attention to the subjoined list showing the types of lock fitted to Scottish firearms from the sixteenth to the early nineteenth centuries, to show the relative position of the Dog Lock, the limitations of period being based on dated examples.

The Early Snaphance Lock	.	Sixteenth century to about 1686
The Late       "      "	.	From about 1647       "      1702
The Dog Lock   . . . .	.	"       1665       "       1700
The Flint Lock . . . .	.	"       1700       "       1820

The Dog Lock is the early form of Flint Lock. According to dated specimens, it was introduced into Scotland about the year 1665,<sup>1</sup> and was displaced by the fully developed Flint Lock about the year 1700.

Its immediate predecessor was the Late Snaphance Lock (fig. 1). This lock consists of the lock-plate (L), to which is attached, externally, the pan (P), with a fence (F); over the pan is a sliding pan-cover (PC), and above this the steel (ST). The cock (C) holds the flint between two jaws, which are closed by a pin<sup>2</sup> screwed through the lower jaw. The spindle (SP) is forged on the cock, the tumbler (T) slips on to the spindle and is secured by a nut or driving-pin, but there is no bridle to steady the spindle and reduce friction. When at full cock (there is no half cock) the cock is held by the breast of the sear (S), working horizontally, which springs over a flange (FL) on the tumbler (T). On pressing the trigger (TR) the sear is withdrawn from contact with the tumbler, and the cock falls, striking the flint violently against the steel, thereby generating the spark that ignites the powder

<sup>1</sup> An English example dated 1647 is illustrated in *European Hand Firearms of the 15th, 16th, and 17th Centuries*, by H. J. Jackson and C. E. Whitelaw (fig. 49).

<sup>2</sup> "Pin" is the term applied by a gunmaker to a screw that is screwed into metal and therefore does not require a point; he only calls it a "screw" when it is screwed into wood and therefore has a point.

in the pan. In falling, the cock pushes back the pan-cover by means of a small rod (R) inside the lock and connected with the tumbler (T), and at the same time the stroke of the flint throws up the steel, thus exposing the priming to the sparks. Other parts of the lock are the steel spring (STS), the pan-cover spring (PS), the pan-cover swivel (PSV), the main-spring (MS), the sear-spring (SS), the sear-lug (SL), and the comb of cock (CB).

Snaphance Locks have the important defect of having no provision for placing the lock at half cock, nor any other device whereby the weapons to which they are fitted may be carried with safety, when loaded and primed and ready for immediate use. This defect is accentuated by the fact that these early firearms, almost without exception, have no trigger-guard. The only way to avoid a premature discharge was to turn back the steel so that, should the trigger be pressed accidentally, the flint could not come into contact with it. The pan, however, would be uncovered by the fall of the cock and probably require repriming.

The Dog Lock shows a considerable advance on the system which it superseded, by the introduction of two important improvements. The first is the provision of a contrivance for putting the lock at half cock, but as this did not lock the mechanism securely, there was added a small outside safety-catch acting directly on the cock. It is this outside safety-catch which is the distinguishing feature of the Dog Lock. The second is the combination of the pan-cover and the steel to form one piece.

In Scottish firearms there are three distinct types of the Dog Lock, which will be described in their chronological sequence as Types I., II., and III.

*Type I.*—This is the earliest type (fig. 2). It has the cock similar in form to that of the late snaphance (fig. 1). Behind the cock is a long safety-catch (SC) swung on a pin and formed with a hook-shaped extremity to grip a notch in the rear of the cock above the level of the spindle. The pan has a fence of circular form, similar to that of the late snaphance but less in diameter. The pan-cover and the steel are combined in one piece by forging the pan-cover on to the lower extremity of the steel. The spindle and the cock are forged in one piece, the tumbler being slipped on to the spindle and secured by a nut or driving-pin. The tumbler is formed with a spur on the top, in front of which the nose of the sear working horizontally, catches when the cock is drawn back to half cock. The cock is then drawn back slightly and the safety-catch clipped into place by hand. When the cock is drawn back to full cock a flange

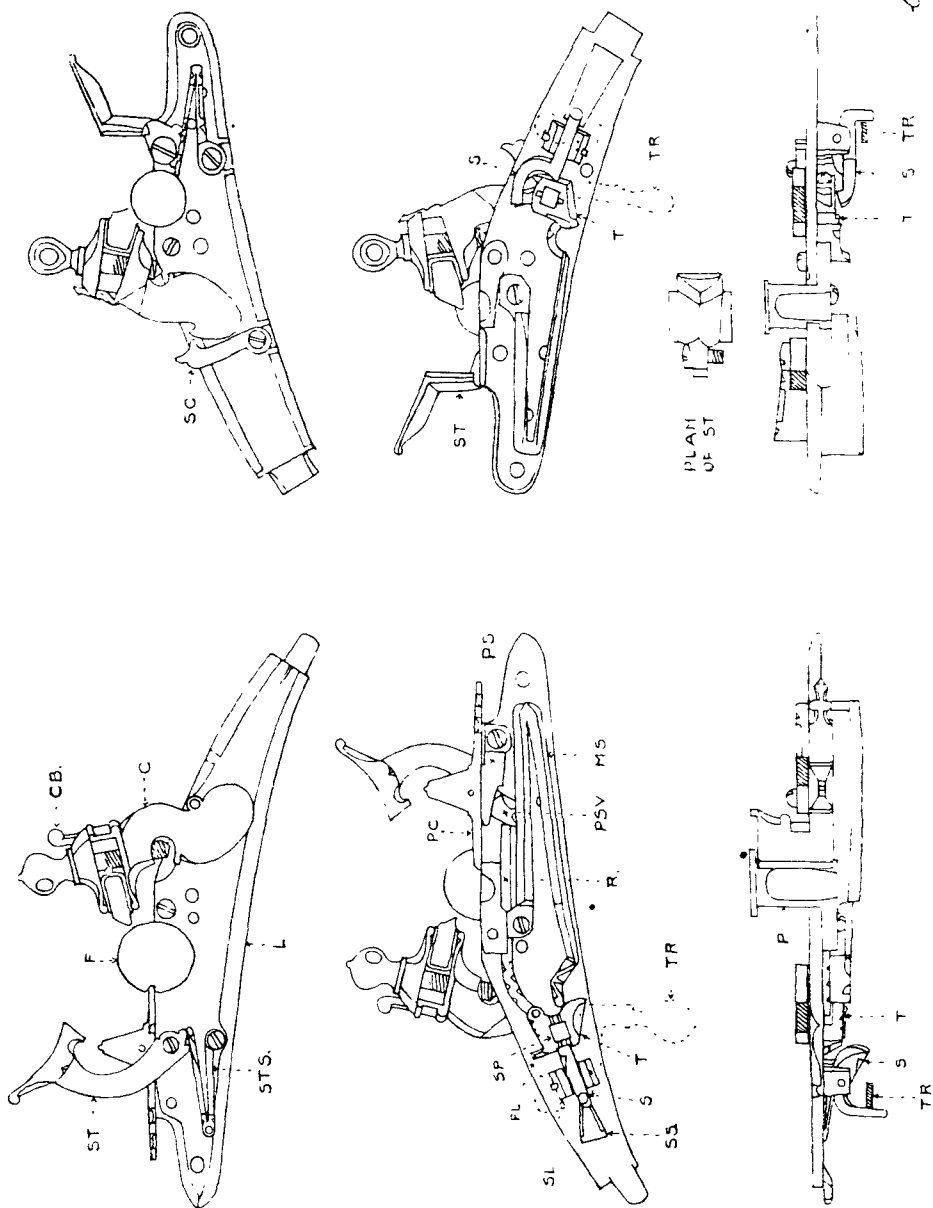


FIG. 2 DIAGRAM OF A DOG-LOCK, TYPE I.  
(HALF FULL SIZE) ABOUT 1005  
SHOWN AFTER DISCHARGE, WITH THE  
PRESSURE ON THE TRIGGER

FIG. 1. DIAGRAM OF A LATE SNAPPHANCE LOCK.  
(HALF FULL SIZE) DATED 1047  
SHOWN AFTER DISCHARGE, WITH THE PRESS-  
-URE ON THE TRIGGER

towards the rear of the sear slips over a flange on the tumbler to the rear of the spur; at the same time the back of the cock throws the safety-catch out of gear. Pressure on the trigger disengages the sear from contact with the tumbler, and allows the head of the cock to fall forward and bring the flint forcibly into contact with the steel, which is thereby thrown up, exposing the priming to the sparks.

The earliest example on this system so far known is dated 1665, and is in the collection of Mr N. R. Colville, F.S.A.Scot. It is similar to fig. 2,<sup>1</sup> in the same collection, and is fitted to a pistol with a steel stock and a heart-shaped butt.<sup>2</sup> A small pistol of this type is illustrated in fig. 5.

*Type II.*—In this type (fig. 3) the exterior differs from that of Type I., in that the circular fence to the pan is done away with, and the safety-catch is smaller and different in form, and clips into a notch in the lower edge of the cock, below the level of the spindle. The interior mechanism differs from Type I., in having the sear extended to project through a square aperture near the top of the lock-plate and grip the breast of the cock, instead of a spur on the tumbler, at half cock. The cock is then lowered slightly and the safety-catch slipped into place by hand. When the cock is drawn back to full cock, the flange towards the rear of the sear slips over the flange on the tumbler, and at the same time the back of the cock throws the safety-catch out of gear. Pressure on the trigger disconnects the sear from contact with the tumbler, and withdraws the nose of the sear to within the lock. There is only one specimen of this type in existence so far as I can learn. It is signed *Thomas caddell 1678*, and is fitted to a pistol of rather rude workmanship with a steel stock and scroll butt. It is preserved in the Museum at Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

It will be noticed that the nose of the sear is set at right angles to form the stop for the cock which, being rectangular in section, does not allow the nose of the sear to get a grip of it, and hence the necessity for the safety-catch. There is a rather curious defect in the design of this lock. In Types I. and III. the lock is first put at half cock, then the cock is *drawn back* slightly and the safety-catch inserted; but in this example the nose of the sear has to be withdrawn by pressure on the trigger, and the cock *let forward* slightly before the safety-catch can be inserted—a very inconvenient and unpractical arrangement.

A question arises in connection with this example, Are all the parts contemporary? On examining it for the first time, I was inclined to

<sup>1</sup> The main-spring in this illustration is a late restoration.

<sup>2</sup> Figured in Drummond's *Ancient Scottish Weapons*, Plate xxviii., fig. 4. The safety-catch is missing. The pistol is remarkable in having the barrel rifled with eight grooves.

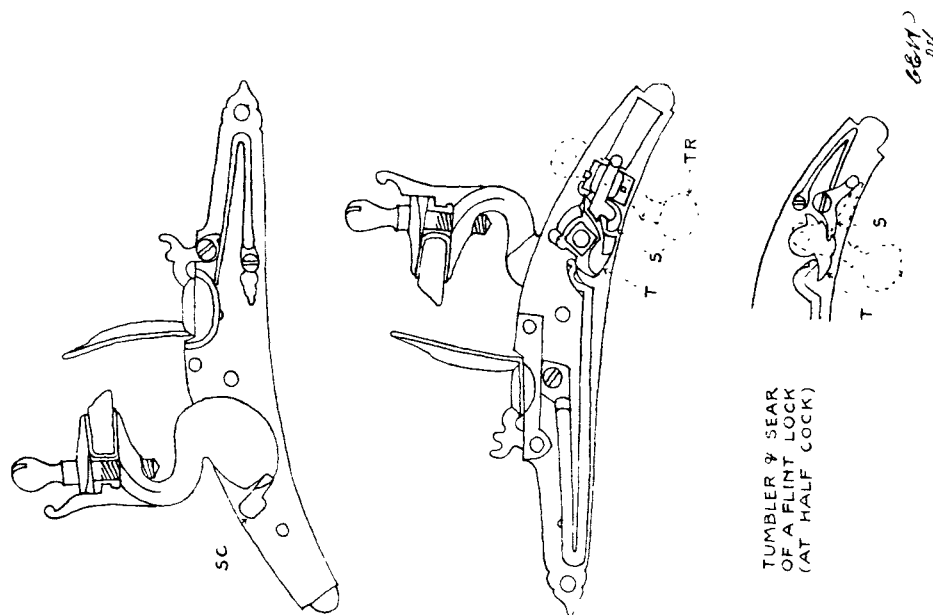


Fig. 4. Diagram of a Dog-Lock, Type III.  
(Half full size). About 1690  
shown with the safety catch in  
gear.

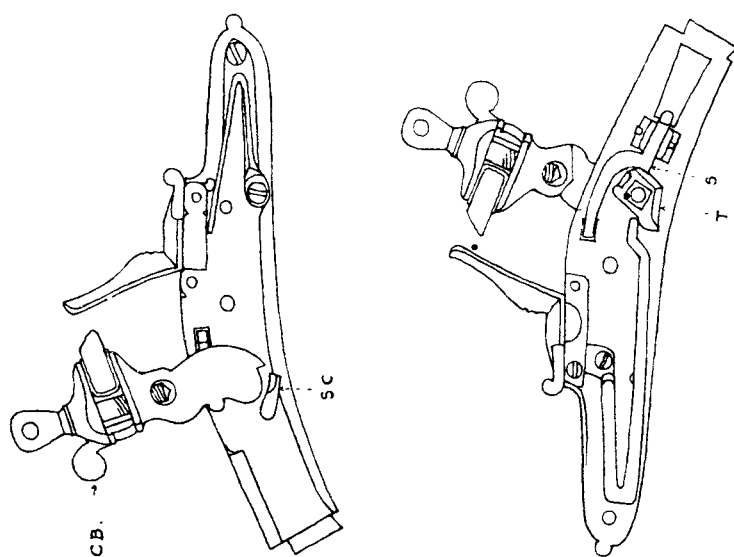


Fig. 3. Diagram of a Dog-Lock, Type II.  
(Half full size) Dated 1678.  
shown at half cock

think it possible that originally the sear had been similar in form to that of fig. 1, and that therefore the lock had no provision for half cock and had to rely on the safety-catch alone; that at a shortly later date a new sear with an elongated nose had been substituted and the lock plate perforated to allow of its projection to stop the cock. I am not disposed to maintain that opinion now.

This is a particularly interesting if not unique lock, whether all its parts be contemporary, or some of them altered as suggested, and it illustrates the work of the first Thomas Caddell, who is reputed to have originated the pistol-making industry in Doune.

The system illustrated in the internal mechanism of Type II. was continued in the immediately succeeding Flint Lock, as fitted to pistols with the scroll and lobe butts, down till the close of the eighteenth century. It is also found in a number of the pistols with the heart-shaped butt and a gun<sup>1</sup> made during the early years of the eighteenth century. In these later forms the breast of the cock is either rounded or bevelled, and the nose of the sear set at a slightly acute angle, thus forming a sort of dovetail which gets a sufficient grip on the cock to hold it firmly at half cock, and thus obviate the necessity for a safety-catch. Attention may also be drawn to the small circular terminal to the comb of the cock of fig. 3, which later on developed into the large perforated disc, a characteristic feature of so many of the finest pistols of the eighteenth century, with the scroll butt.

*Type III.*—This, the latest type (fig. 4), is externally the same as the succeeding Flint Lock, except that it has a small safety-catch identical in form and application to that of Type II. (fig. 3), and the cock and the spindle are still forged in one piece.<sup>2</sup> Internally the nose of the sear is prolonged downwards, and when put at half cock, working horizontally, butts on the rear of a spur on the lower edge of the tumbler. When the cock is drawn back to full cock, a flange on the upper part of the sear snaps over a flange on the upper edge of the tumbler, as in Type II. (fig. 3); at the same time the back of the cock throws the safety-catch out of gear. The spur on the tumbler and the nose of the sear, however, are not formed in a manner that secures the firm locking of the mechanism at half cock, as in the perfected Flint Lock (see detail on fig. 4), and therefore it is necessary to retain the safety-catch. There is an example of this type in the Museum, Perth; it is of steel with a scroll butt, and is signed DANIEL STEVART 1690. Another

<sup>1</sup> Preserved in Castle Grant, Speyside.

<sup>2</sup> In the Flint Lock the attachment of the cock and the tumbler is reversed from that of the Dog Lock, the spindle and the tumbler being forged in one piece and the cock slipped on to the spindle and held by a pin.

example of exceptional interest is illustrated in fig. 6, and described in detail.

Scottish specimens of the Dog Lock are scarce, and all the examples referred to are on pistols. No Scottish guns fitted with this type of lock have as yet come under my notice, and I would therefore be deeply obliged to anyone who would inform me of any further examples of firearms of this type.

TABLE OF EXAMPLES EXAMINED OR CLASSIFIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS.

*Type I.*

1. Pistol of steel with heart-shaped butt and rifled barrel, dated 1665. Length 11 inches. N. R. Colville, F.S.A.Scot.
2. Pistol of steel with heart-shaped butt, dated 16(-)3 on the barrel, which is a little later than the pistol. About 1665. Length  $15\frac{5}{16}$  inches. N. R. Colville, F.S.A.Scot.
3. Pistol of steel with heart-shaped butt (fig. 5). About 1665. Length 10 inches. C. E. Whitelaw, F.S.A.Scot.
4. Pistol of steel with scroll butt. Signed A.W. 1670. Royal Armoury, Stockholm. (Classified from a photograph.)
5. Pistol with walnut stock and steel extension bar. About 1675. Net length  $19\frac{13}{16}$  inches. N. R. Colville, F.S.A.Scot.

*Type II.*

Pistol of steel with scroll butt. Signed *Thomas caddell* 1678 (fig. 3). Length  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The Museum, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

*Type III.*

1. Pistol of steel with scroll butt. Signed DANIEL STEVART 1690. Length 16 inches. Museum, Perth.
2. Pair of pistols of steel with heart-shaped butts and right- and left-hand locks. Signed IO. STVART. About 1690. Length 19 inches. The Duke of Argyll.
3. Another pair, similar, by the same maker. About 1690. Royal Armoury, Stockholm.
4. Pistol of steel with heart-shaped butt, unsigned (fig. 4). About 1690. Length  $14\frac{5}{16}$  inches. N. R. Colville, F.S.A.Scot.
5. Pistol with rosewood stock and heart-shaped butt. Signed IO. STVART (figs. 6 and 7). About 1695. Length 11 inches. C. E. Whitelaw, F.S.A.Scot.



Of the types of pistols referred to, I exhibit two specimens which are in my own collection. These are illustrated in figs. 5, 6, and 7.

The first is a pistol of steel with early Dog Lock of Type I. and heart-shaped butt (fig. 5). The barrel is octagonal at the breech and muzzle, and inlaid with cross bands of silver. The cock is engraved with floral scrolls, and there are traces of engraving on the silver bands. This pistol is remarkable in not having been fitted with a picker. The pin closing the jaws of the cock is about twenty years later than the pistol, and the weapon has suffered severely from ruthless over-



Fig. 5. Pistol with Dog Lock (Type I.).

cleaning. It is 10 inches in length, with a bore of  $\frac{9}{18}$  inch. It was made about 1665.

The second is a pistol with rosewood stock, late Dog Lock of Type III., and heart-shaped butt (figs. 6 and 7). The lock is finely engraved with leaf scrolls, etc., and signed IO. STVART. There is a mask chiselled on the cock after the fashion of continental firearms. The stock is finely modelled and finished, and the mounts are of silver boldly engraved with floral scrolls. The mounts consist of a band starting at the strap of the breech block, extending the length of the butt, and continuing down the extremity of the pommel and along beyond the trigger; it has a narrow nose-cap, and nose- and tail-pipes for the ram-rod, which is missing. The ram-rod pipes are delicately moulded, and the ball terminals of the trigger and picker<sup>1</sup> are chased with bands of fluting. The

<sup>1</sup> The picker is a dummy.

back plate is pierced and engraved, and there is the usual steel belt-hook. The barrel is circular, except close to the breech, where it is octagonal. It is ornamented with narrow moulded cross bands enclos-

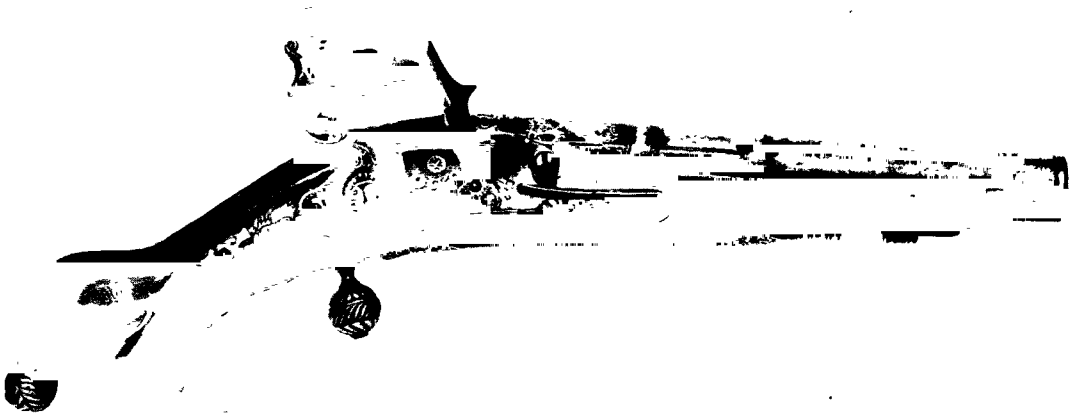


Fig. 6. Pistol with Dog Lock (Type III.).

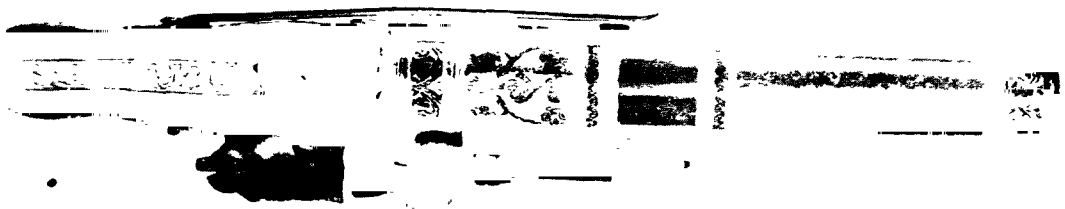


Fig. 7. Top View of Pistol with Dog Lock (Type III.).

ing inlaid bands of silver, a rectangular escutcheon (blank), and a panel of floral design, all engraved with floral scrolls, except on the two narrow bands, where a sort of water-leaf or dentil is used. On the band round the muzzle appears the head of a man with a pointed beard and a brushed-up moustache. This pistol is believed to be

unique, and is certainly of rare quality of design and workmanship, and in a state of preservation rarely found in Scottish weapons. Its length (excluding picker) is 11 inches and the bore is  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch. Its period is about 1695.

A few remarks on the work of Jo. Stuart, the maker of the last-described pistol, may not be out of place on this occasion. The place where this craftsman worked has not yet been ascertained, but as all the other examples made by him that I have come across are of steel and have the heart-shaped butt, it would seem that his locality was somewhere in the east or north-east of Scotland.

Referring back to the Table of Periods at the commencement of this paper, it will be remarked that it exhibits a very great overlapping of periods. The table shows that so late as the commencement of the last quarter of the seventeenth century the Early and Late Snaphance Locks and the Dog Lock were all being made at the one time. This peculiarity is even more strikingly illustrated in the work of Stuart, who, doubtless, would have to meet the wishes of his customers, some being conservative and others progressive.

Mr N. R. Colville's collection includes a specimen by Stuart with a Late Snaphance Lock dated 1691, and in my own collection is another dated as late as 1702; while in Castle Grant, Speyside, is a fine pair fitted with right- and left-hand locks of the ordinary Flint Lock system and dated 1701.<sup>1</sup> The example with the Dog Lock (fig. 6) may be placed in the last ten years of the seventeenth century. It would thus appear that Stuart at one and the same time was making firearms fitted with either the Late Snaphance Lock, the Dog Lock, or the Flint Lock.

I doubt if it is realised how valuable a record of Scotland's progress in art and craftsmanship we possess in the firearms of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the large majority of which are dated. Unfortunately, it was only during the latter half of the seventeenth century that the gunmaker commenced to put on his name, instead of merely his initials, so that it is almost impossible to determine with accuracy the locality where the earlier pieces were made.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE ON FOUR PIECES OF CARVED WOODWORK FROM STIRLING CASTLE.

In last year's volume of the *Proceedings*, vol. lviii. p. 300, fig. 2, in describing a wooden panel with a lion passant carved on it, I stated that this object originally came from Stirling Castle. Since then,

<sup>1</sup> Illustrated in the *Catalogue of the Scottish National Exhibition, Glasgow, 1911*, p. 314, No. 14.

Mr Thomas Ross, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., has kindly pointed out that I was in error in stating that it had come from this place. He informs me that about forty years ago he saw it in the possession of an old woman in Dunblane, who told him that it came from the Cathedral there, and that about twenty years later he saw it again, but in the possession of Dr Stewart, Dunblane, who had obtained it at the dispersal of the effects of the old woman referred to. I purchased it from the dealer who bought it at the sale of Miss Stewart's effects. (See MacGibbon and Ross's *Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland*, vol. ii. p. 107.)

## IV.

## EARTH-HOUSE OR GALLERIED BUILDING NEAR DURNESS, SUTHERLAND. BY JOHN MATHIESON, F.R.S.E., F.R.S.G.S., CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

This earth-house, locally known as Tigh na Fiarnain (house of the Fingalians), is situated near the summit of the range of mountains which separates Loch Eriboll from the Kyle of Durness. It stands on the slope of a small hillock, nearly 1000 feet above sea-level, about one mile south of Meall Meadhonach (middle hill), and about one mile and a half west of Portnacoon Pier, and an equal distance from the earth-house at Port Chamuill, as shown in fig. 1.

The building consists of a roughly circular chamber measuring about 17 feet in greatest internal diameter, the wall, which is of dry-stone building, measuring from about 2 feet to 4 feet 6 inches in thickness. Abutting on the south-west is a crescentic-shaped enclosure or annexe on the south-west, which measures about 26 feet in greatest length and about 10 feet in greatest breadth internally. The entrance to the main chamber is on the east side, commanding a good view of the sea as far as Whiten Head. The entrance passage is well built, and measures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, but no trace of a doorway in the annexe is discernible.

Built on ground sloping to the north, the south side of the main structure is level with the ground, but the north side has a well-built dry-stone wall rising on the outside to a height of 4 feet 6 inches. The adjoining enclosure is almost level with the surface, except at X in fig. 2, where the wall is about 2 feet in height above ground. The inner part of the building is so tumbled in that it is impossible, without excavation, to say what was the original formation. There are six pillars arranged round the centre and one against the eastern wall.

The pillars marked *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d* on fig. 2 stand about 4 feet high, and slabs measuring 5 feet in length radiate from these to the circumference. The space between these lintels also appears to have been covered with large slabs, of which there are plenty in the immediate neighbourhood.

This earth-house differs greatly from the usual types found in Aberdeenshire, Forfarshire, and some of the southern and western counties of Scotland. These generally have a long tunnel-like passage

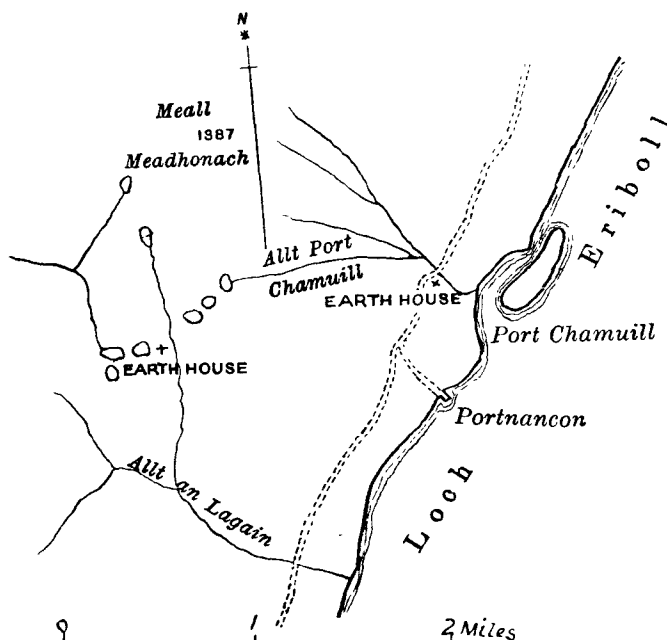


Fig. 1. Earth-house near Durness—Map of Locality.

leading into a cell, which may either be of circular shape, with a domical roof, or a mere widening of the passage. But it belongs to a class of which quite a number appear in the parish of Latheron, Caithness, where they are known as "wags," a corruption of the Gaelic *uamh*, a cave, or its diminutive *uamhag*. The latter are fully described, under the term "Galleried Buildings," in the *Inventory of Ancient Monuments in Caithness*, Nos. 248-263. These buildings are doubtlessly related to a class of earth-house which occurs in North Uist<sup>1</sup> and South Uist, and probably in some of the other adjacent islands. In these Hebridean structures the building is circular, but, instead of pillar stones

<sup>1</sup> Beveridge, *North Uist*, p. 120.

round the centre with lintels radiating from them, as in the "wags," they have radial walls which, like the lintels of the "wags," probably supported the roof. The central part in the Hebridean building seems to have been left uncovered, as hearths have been found at this spot in several of those excavated. It is probable that in the earth-house under

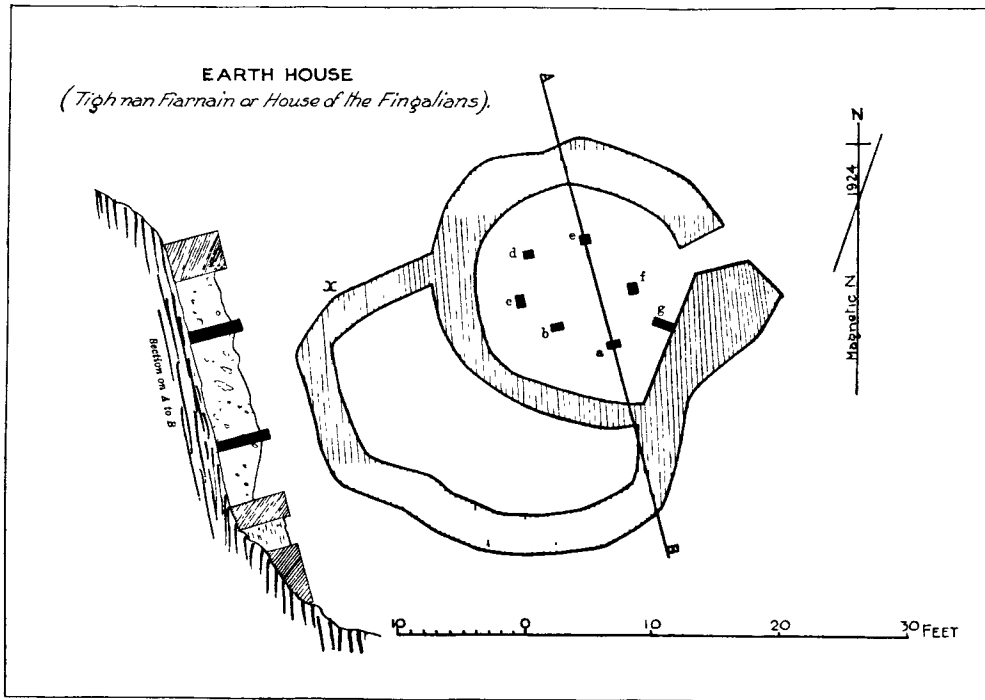


Fig. 2. Plan and Section of Earth-house near Durness.

discussion the central part was also open to the heavens, but this is a point which could only be elucidated by excavation.

Discoveries in the Broch of Dun Troddan, Glenelg,<sup>1</sup> seem to show that there had been a somewhat similar arrangement of pillars, but made of wood, for supporting the inner end of a roof whose outer extremity rested on the scarcement on the inner face of the wall of the broch.

There is a local tradition that a road or tunnel through the granite rock joined the earth-house just described to the other at Port Chamuill.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lv. p. 90.

## V.

NOTES ON A PORTRAIT AT ABBOTSFORD. BY WALTER  
LEONARD BELL, M.D., F.S.A.Scot., F.R.S.E.

Among the many objects of antiquarian and artistic interest in Sir Walter Scott's collection at Abbotsford is a sixteenth-century portrait of a gentleman, Sir Thomas Hervey, which is hung in the drawing-room.

I paid a visit to Abbotsford in September 1924, and was conducted round the apartments shown to the public, with a small party in the ordinary way. The library and other rooms contain several interesting relics of Mary Queen of Scots—such as her seal, her crucifix, a picture of her head after decapitation—which had been pointed out by our guide, and when we came to the portrait which is the subject of these notes, it was described as that of "Sir Thomas Hervey, Knight Marshal to Queen Mary." We were not actually told so, but the inference—and I am sure the impression given—was that Sir Thomas Hervey also had been associated with Mary Stuart.

It occurred to me that there must be some mistake about this. I did not recollect any Sir Thomas Hervey in connection with Mary Queen of Scots; further, Knight Marshal was not familiar as the title of an official of the Scottish Court; and Hervey is not a Scots name. I therefore asked our guide if he could give me any particulars about this picture, but found that the curators believed that Sir Thomas Hervey had to do with the Scottish Queen Mary, and that no one had ever questioned it. The official catalogue which was shown me gave no assistance; the entry therein is simply "Sir Thomas Hervey, Knight Marshal to Queen Mary. Artist unknown."

I could get no further at the time, but the subject seemed to deserve some investigation.

The portrait is hung high up on the wall—rather "skyed," and the day of my visit was dull, so that it was not possible to make out many details; but the assistant curator, Mr James Flynn, at my request very kindly undertook to examine it carefully when it was taken down for its annual winter cleaning, and to send me full particulars. Mr Flynn, at, I fear, considerable inconvenience, has taken a great amount of trouble in the matter, and my very grateful thanks are due to him for his most willing assistance, and also to his friend Mr A. Mathews, who executed a coloured sketch of the portrait and another of the armorial bearings depicted in its upper part.

On my return home I instituted some inquiries, and a little research



Fig. 1. Portrait of Sir Thomas Hervey at Abbotsford.



soon made it certain that this Sir Thomas Hervey was one of the Herveys of Ickworth, Co. Suffolk, and was Knight Marshal to Queen Mary I. of England, Mary Tudor. He had no connection at all with our Queen Mary Stuart.

The picture (fig. 1) is a portrait in oils of a handsome, grave-looking man of middle age, with a short full beard of a brown colour. He is dressed in a close-fitting brownish doublet, braided with red and piped with white. Over this he wears an outer coat or gown of dark material, lined with brown, and thrown back so as to display the inner doublet. On his head is a small black velvet cap encircled by a gold band or chain. He has

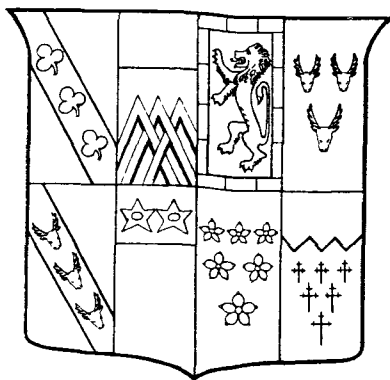


Fig. 2. Coat of Arms on Portrait at Abbotsford.

a rather large ruff and a narrow sword-belt, with the hilt of a rapier appearing over the left hip. Above, and to the left, is a small armorial shield, and to the right an inscription—"Sir Tho<sup>s</sup> Hervey Knight Mar<sup>l</sup> to Q. Mary."

The armorial bearings consist of a shield only, no "exterior ornaments"—crest, motto, torse, helm, or mantling—being shown (fig. 2). The colours are considerably changed and faded through age, so that I am in some degree of doubt as to the proper heraldic tinctures of one or two of the quarterings. Red, blue, and white have lasted better than other colours;

black has become brownish; gold and (?) silver have faded into a nondescript brownish tint.

After collating these arms with those of the family of Hervey of Ickworth, as given in the *Visitation of Suffolke* by William Harvey, Clarenceux, in 1561, and other authorities,<sup>1</sup> I am able to offer the following blazon with some confidence that it is correct:—

Quarterly of eight.

1. Gules on a bend argent three trefoils slipped vert. *Hervey*. Henry FitzHervey (1 King John) is said to have borne argent a trefoil vert, and William Hervey of Boxted (44 Henry III.) argent three trefoils vert. To John Hervey, Esquire, in 8th or 9th Henry IV. is ascribed the present coat—gules on a bend argent three trefoils vert.
2. Azure a chief and in base three chevronels interlaced or. *Fitzhugh*. (Came in about middle of thirteenth century.)

<sup>1</sup> Especially a paper by the Rev. Lord Arthur Hervey, *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, vol. ii., 1869.

3. Sable a lion rampant argent within a bordure compony of the first and second. *Niernuyt*. (Came in before 1458.)
4. (?) Argent three bucks' heads cabossed gules. This quarter is puzzling. It appears in some but not in all the Hervey arms in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The field in the portrait is now of a yellowish-brown tint, and may originally have been gold or silver, or indeed almost any colour.

In the *Visitation of Essex*, 1612, in the arms of Hervey impaling Neville, it is the third quarter, and is tricked or with bucks' heads gules. An illustration of the arms of the Rt. Hon. John Lord Hervey, created Baron Hervey of Ickworth in Co. Suffolk, 1702, shows this coat as the fourth quarter, but with the field sable.

Mr Archibald G. B. Russell, Lancaster Herald, informs me that this quartering is recorded in the College of Arms as one of the Hervey quarterings in the funeral certificate of Francis Hervey, Gentleman Pensioner to Queen Elizabeth, under date 11th March 1601. The coat is there tricked "argent three bucks' heads caboshed gules." As this is a contemporary document, it must be assumed that the tinctures are correctly given. Papworth assigns this coat to Gernon, but it is doubtful if it was ever borne by this family, and Mr Russell is of opinion that it represents Collenwood, as given in Glover's and Vincent's ordinary. Lancaster further tells me that as a result of an extensive search he is unable to trace any coat more exactly corresponding with that tricked in the above funeral certificate.

It therefore appears that this quartering was borne by several members of the Hervey family, but I regret that I have been unable to find any name in the Hervey pedigrees which would show whence they derived it.

5. Argent on a bend gules three bucks' heads cabossed or. *Brach*.
6. Argent on a chief vert two mullets or pierced gules. *Drury*. (Came in about middle of the fifteenth century.) This family frequently bore a Tau between the mullets. *E.g.*, in a list of the knights of Suffolk who accompanied Henry III. to foreign wars, it is stated that "Robert Drury, chevalier, port d'argent à une chef de vert chargé d'une Taw entre 2 estoilles."<sup>1</sup>
7. Sable six cinquefoils argent, three, two, and one. *Freysell*.
8. Argent a chief indented azure and six cross crosslets fitchées gules, three, two, and one. *Saxham*.

The Hervey crest is "an ounce passant sable besanté, ducally collared and chain reflexed over the back or, holding in the dexter paw

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in *A Breviary of Suffolk*, by Robert Royce, 1618, ed. by Lord Francis Hervey, 1902.

a trefoil slipped vert." Motto "Je n'oublieray jamais." As already stated, these are not shown in the portrait.

The Herveys of Ickworth are an old Suffolk family, now represented in the Peerage by the Marquis of Bristol, through John Hervey, M.P. for Bury St Edmunds 1694-1703, who was created Earl of Bristol in 1714, and died 1751.

They trace their descent from Herveus Bituricensis (Hervey of Berri and Lord of St Aignan in Berri). *temp.* William the Conqueror, who held lands in Norfolk and Suffolk, and who died about 1120. His grandson, Fils Hervey, *floruit* during the reign of Richard I., and was Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk. Early in the reign of Edward I. the family were styled Hervey of Thurleigh, Co. Bedford, but a Thomas Hervey, who died about 1467, obtained the lands of Ickworth by his marriage with Jane, daughter and heiress of Henry Drury of Ickworth, after which they became known as Hervey of Ickworth, Co. Suffolk.

Though a family of standing in East Anglia, and intermarrying with such families as Fitzhugh, de Gray, Foliot, Argentine, Paston, Talbot, Parlys, Niernuyt, Fienes, etc., they do not appear to have been wealthy before the time of Sir George Hervey (1474-1522); but he left all his extensive properties away from the next male heir, and reduced the fortunes of the elder branch of the family, who remained comparatively poor until they were resuscitated by Sir William Hervey, who died in 1660.

The grandson of Thomas Hervey of Ickworth (above) was Sir Nicholas Hervey, a man of considerable note in his day. He was Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to Henry VIII., and Ambassador to the Emperor Charles V. at Ghent in 1532, in connection with the divorce of Katherine of Aragon. He died 28th August 1532. By his first wife, Eliza, daughter of Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam, Knight, of Aldwarke, and widow of Sir Thomas Maleverer, Knight, he had an only son Thomas Hervey, the original of the portrait at Abbotsford.

Sir Nicholas married as his second wife Bridget, daughter and heiress of Sir John Wiltshire, Knight, of Stone Castle, Kent, and left issue. William Hervey, his grandson, was created a baronet in 1619, Lord Hervey of Rosse in Ireland in 1620, and Lord Hervey of Kidbrook, Co. Kent, in 1628. He died in 1642, when his titles became extinct.

Very little is recorded in either MS. or printed sources about Sir Thomas Hervey, the Knight Marshal to Queen Mary, and diligent search in the State Papers of the period has not disclosed much information concerning his life. Apart from his appointment as Knight Marshal, he does not appear to have been in any way distinguished, and it is curious that in the Acts of the Privy Council he is styled Thomas Hervey, Esquire, and not Sir Thomas Hervey, Knight.

His patent of office has not been found,<sup>1</sup> but he seems to have received the appointment towards the close of Mary's reign. In *Cal. State Papers, Domestic, Mary*, under date 30th March 1557, mention is made of instructions to Thomas Hervey, Knight Marshal, for taking musters of the forces at Portsmouth and in the Isle of Wight, and on the following day Sir Thomas Tresham and Lord C. Paulet, Captain of Portsmouth, are directed to assist him.

On 19th December 1558 Thomas Hervey, Esquire, is reimbursed by "the Thresourer of the Chamber the somme of xi li. xii s. x d. due vnto him for the diettes and lodging of Capt. Mallysorte, a Frenchman, for xij wekes and od dayes." Two days later, on 21st December 1558, Hervey is informed that the Queen (Elizabeth) has appointed Sir Raff Hopton, Knight, to be Knight Marshal, and he (Hervey) is required to deliver to him "all the prisoners and all other things remayninge in his custody belonging to the office of Knight Marshall."<sup>2</sup>

Sir Thomas Hervey married a Dutch woman (or, according to some pedigrees, a lady named Holland), and left two daughters co-heiresses, the elder of whom, Eleanor Hervey, married William Worsley of the Isle of Wight, Constable of Carisbrook Castle. I have not been able to ascertain the date of Sir Thomas Hervey's death.

From the records it appears that during the Tudor period different members of the Hervey family were in favour at Court and held posts of some importance.

Sir George Hervey, and Nicholas his cousin, attended Henry VIII. to the Field of the Cloth of Gold in 1520. Sir Nicholas, as already mentioned, became Gentleman of the Privy Chamber; his sister, Elizabeth Hervey, was one of Katherine of Aragon's Maids of Honour; and his second wife, Bridget Wiltshire, was for a time Lady of the Bedchamber to Anne Boleyn. It is probable that our Sir Thomas Hervey was educated at the expense of Henry VIII. and Katherine. Sir Nicholas' second son, Sir George Hervey, was Lieutenant of the Tower of London at the time of his death in 1605. Francis Hervey, nephew of Sir Nicholas, whose armorial bearings I have already referred to, was Gentleman Pensioner to Queen Elizabeth, and Margaret, daughter of Anthony Hervey, his niece, married Sir Amyas Paulet, who had the custody of Mary Queen of Scots at Fotheringhay.

The Knight Marshal was an officer of the English Royal Household with the functions of a domestic magistrate—a sort of Chief of Police. It is probable that the origin of the office—the "Marshalship of the King's Household"—was due to a delegation of a part of his authority by the

<sup>1</sup> The Patent Rolls of Philip and Mary have not been calendared.

<sup>2</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council*, 1553-70.

King's Marshal (Marshal of England, or Earl Marshal) in the middle of the thirteenth century, when he appears to have appointed "a deputy or clerk to act for him in the Court holden before the King . . . called Marescallus Marescalcie Curiae Regis." This deputy sat with the Steward of the Household (who was similarly a deputy of the Steward of England) in a court which had jurisdiction over matters within the "Verge," *i.e.* within a radius of twelve miles from the King's palace, and which became the court of the Lord Steward. It was this deputy who eventually became known as the "Knight Marshal."<sup>1</sup>

His State duties were settled *temp.* Henry III. on the occasion of Queen Eleanor's Coronation in 1236. They were (1) to suppress tumult in the King's "house"; (2) to act as quartermaster or billeting officer; (3) to keep the gates of the King's hall.<sup>2</sup>

Edward III. discharged the attendance of the Marshal of the King's household except on the five chief festivals of the year, "when with their long typped staffes they owe to help the porters to kepe the gate, and the ushers at the halle doors, and to preceede the Kyng in prees of people whythyr somever the Kyng go in the dayes festyvalle."<sup>3</sup> Henry VIII. commanded the daily attendance of the Knight Marshal and his officers and deputies, and directed that among other duties they shall "have special respect to the exclusion of boyes, and vile persons, and punishment of vagabonds and mighty beggars, not permitting any of them to remaine in, about, or neare vnto the Court; for little shall it prevale to purge the Court of vnable or vnmeete persons or servants, if vagabonds, and such others as shall be expelled and lack masters, may remaine in or about the same; and semblably he shall take good regard that all such unthrifty and common woomen as follow the Court may be likewise, from time to time, openly punished, banished, and excluded, and none of them to be suffered neare thereunto, seeing all the premises and other things concerning his office to be put in effectual execution, as he will answer unto the King's highnesse at his perill."<sup>4</sup>

Queen Elizabeth had four Marshals<sup>5</sup> with a wage of 7½d. a day, whose duty it was to "marshal the hall" when Her Majesty or any Ambassador came thither, but these, apparently, were officials of inferior rank, as her Knight Marshal's fee was 100 marks.

In 1689 we find that the Knight Marshal, Sir Edward Villiers, had £26 a year, and five "Marshallsmen" £100 a year between them.

<sup>1</sup> *The King's Sergeants and Officers of State*, J. H. Round, 1911.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Collection of Ordinances and Regulations for the Government of the King's Household*, published by the Society of Antiquaries, 1790.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Queen Elizabeth's Household Ordinances (43 Eliz.).

Dr Round states that at the Coronation of James II. it was the Knight Marshal who proclaimed the Champion's challenge: at that of George III. he cleared the way for the Champion; and at the Coronation of Queen Victoria he rode at the head of the Marshalmen in the procession to the Abbey.

The office of Knight Marshal and his Court of Marshalsea (later the Palace Court) were abolished in 1849.

I have been able to glean only a few details of the holders of the post during Queen Mary's reign. Sir Ralph Hopton was appointed on 26th August, 34 Henry VIII.<sup>1</sup> In February 1555 he was summoned to Greenwich to show cause why he should not be removed from his office owing to his continual absence, and he had to surrender his Patent of Office on 11th May.<sup>2</sup>

By 4th June 1556 he had been replaced by Sir Thomas Holcroft. How long Holcroft was Knight Marshal cannot be ascertained, but Sir Thomas Hervey seems to have immediately succeeded him.

I greatly regret that I have been unable to ascertain the past history of the portrait, or how it came into Sir Walter Scott's possession. Numerous inquiries have been made in Melrose, Edinburgh, and all likely quarters, without result: no one is able to furnish the information required.

The Hon. Mary M. Maxwell Scott's volume, *The Personal Relics and Antiquarian Treasures of Sir Walter Scott*, 1893, does not deal with the pictures at Abbotsford, and in *Abbotsford*, by Smith and Crockett, 1905, the entry is the same as that in the official catalogue—simply "Sir Thomas Hervey, Knight Marshal to Queen Mary. Artist unknown." It seems improbable that this large and important picture was acquired by Sir Walter, or by the family after his death, without there being some memorandum of the circumstance, but, so far as I can discover, there is no record of it in Sir Walter's *Journals*, in Lockhart's *Life*, or in any papers belonging to the Scott family.

The picture is not one of those held in trust by the Dean and Council of the Faculty of Advocates. The Librarian has most kindly searched among their papers and can find nothing relating to it. If any such record existed it has disappeared—at least for the time being—but it is much to be hoped that it may be recovered at some future day.

My thanks for assistance in the preparation of this paper are due, above all, to Mr James Flynn, Galashiels; to Mr William Chree, K.C., who has obtained information from the Librarian of the Faculty of Advocates; and to Mr J. Donal Ward, M.A., London, who has searched the State Papers of the Tudor period.

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. L. and P. Henry VIII.*

<sup>2</sup> *Acts of the Privy Council, 1554-6.*

MONDAY. 11th May 1925.

THOMAS YULE, W.S., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows:—

The Lord COLUM CRICHTON-STUART, M.P., 22 Mansfield Street, London, W.1.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, 36 Ashton Road, Gourrock.

NEIL MATHESON, 6 Nevill Street, Dundee.

HERBERT J. NICOL, 136 Ashkirk Drive, Mosspark, Glasgow.

DAVID HEYLIN RUDD, Assistant Curator and Curator of Print Room, Kelvingrove Art Gallery, 2 North Park Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.

There was exhibited by Miss Wright, Alticry, Port-William, a Stone Axe, recently used by Sirionós Indians.

The axe (see illustration), which is rather blunt, measures  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in breadth, and  $1\frac{7}{16}$  inch in thickness, and is encircled near the middle by a groove, which is very shallow on the sides, but runs into a deep notch at the top and bottom edges.

In a note accompanying the relic, written by Mr Clement McEwan, Manager of the Anglo-Bolivian Rubber Company of Concepcion, Bolivia, who secured the axe, it was stated that "the Sirionós Indians are a nomadic tribe inhabiting the north-east corner of Bolivia (south of the river Iténes). Their language is, so far, unknown to any people other than themselves. They are a dark brown-coloured, short, thick-set people, and go practically naked. What 'clothes' they wear are made from the inner bark of the Bibosi tree. Their food consists of monkeys, birds, and fish. They fell the Totai palm and eat the 'heart' part, which is soft and white and of a nutty flavour. Their weapons consist of the bow and arrow and axe. The bow is of 'chonta' wood, black and hard, about 6 feet long; the arrows are made of lighter wood (reed), and measure 3 metres (over 9 feet) in length; they are discharged by holding the bow with its foot, the lower end, resting on the ground. The arrows are barbed but not poisoned. For felling trees the rude stone axe is used, and this is sometimes employed as an offensive weapon. The axe is fitted into a cleft stick, bound tightly above and below the axe-head, which is thus kept in position. The axe exhibited was left in the Esperanza Rubber Forests in September 1923, during a raid by the Sirionós, who wander, naturally, more in the dry season, June to November, than at other times, in search of game, etc. These

Indians are implacable enemies of the white man. In captivity they refuse all food, and prefer to die rather than to eat. No attempts have been made by the Bolivian Government to civilise them, but indeed they are fired on at sight by the Bolivians on every occasion. As far as their axes go, the Sirionós are living still in the Stone Age."



Stone Axe from Bolivia. (½ ca.)

Mr J. G. Marwick, J.P., F.S.A.Scot, exhibited two stone Whorls found, with at least twenty more, on the farm of Housegarth, Sandwick, Orkney, all the others being broken. They were discovered by the farmer, Mr Johnston, in a hollow under a small flat stone which lay about 9 inches deep and was dislodged by the plough. Digging in the vicinity revealed no further relics. A dwelling is said to have existed formerly at the spot, but all traces of it have disappeared; only, there is a dark-coloured patch, on what is otherwise sandy soil,



which is said to have been the kailyard. Both whorls are very roughly made, the larger measuring  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch, and the smaller  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, in diameter.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By ALEXANDER WALKER, 52 Union Street, Aberdeen.

Stone Axe, measuring  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length,  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches in breadth, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in thickness, and showing the bold flaking, made during the process of blocking it out, only partially removed by subsequent grinding and polishing, from the glebe of North Mavine, Shetland.

(2) By JOHN CORRIE, F.S.A.Scot.

Flat Bronze Axe, measuring 6 inches in length,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in breadth, and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch in thickness, with glossy dark green patina, from Brockhillstone, Dunscore, Dumfriesshire.

(3) By JOHN M. CORRIE, F.S.A.Scot.

Rim and wall fragments of two Vessels of hand-made pottery, probably of Iron Age, found with a globular Jet Bead on the Glenluce Sands, Wigtownshire.

The following purchases for the Museum were announced:—

Flanged Bronze Axe, measuring  $4\frac{7}{8}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch across the cutting edge, and  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch across the flanges, with stop-ridges  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep, from Perthshire.

Flanged Bronze Axe, measuring  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch across the cutting edge, and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch across the flanges, with stop-ridges  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep; in front of the stop-ridges are two ribs which converge forwards, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with loop complete, measuring  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length and 2 inches across the cutting edge; the socket, which is circular at the mouth, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in external diameter; there is a moulding round the mouth of the socket and a smaller one below, and the axe has a pitted green patina, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with loop complete, measuring  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch in length and  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inch across the cutting edge; the mouth of the socket is oblong with rounded corners, and measures  $1\frac{5}{16}$  inch by  $1\frac{3}{16}$  inch externally; there is a slight moulding round the mouth of the socket, and three small parallel mouldings encircle the axe opposite the upper part of the loop, from Perthshire.

Bronze Spear-head with small loops on the socket, measuring  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch across the blade at widest part: the socket, which is damaged at the mouth, is of circular section until it enters the blade, where it forms an angular midrib, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with imperfect loop, measuring  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches in length and  $1\frac{11}{16}$  inch across the cutting edge: the mouth of the socket is oval and measures  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch by  $1\frac{1}{16}$  inch in external diameter, locality unknown.

Fragment of a large Casting of Bronze of indeterminate use, bearing a slight resemblance to the leg and part of the base of a large three-legged pot, from Fife.

Padlock of iron with a semicircular staple bow or shackle, and the keyhole in side of the lock, probably seventeenth century.

The following Donations of Books to the Library were intimated:—

(1) By CHARLES E. WHITELOW, I.A., F.S.A.Scot.

Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art, and Industry, Glasgow (1911). Catalogue of Exhibits, with Illustrations. 2 vols.

(2) By JOHN H. DIXON, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Pitlochry. Past and Present.

(3) By KEITH S. M. SCOTT, M.B.E., B.Sc., F.S.A.Scot.

Memoirs of Scott of Thirlestane and other Families of the Name of Scott. By John Scott of Rodono, Esquire. Vol. II. Typewritten copy.

(4) By R. C. COWAN, F.S.A.Scot.

History of the Island of Mull. By J. P. MacLean. Vol. II.

(5) By President G. N. MANNING, Security Trust Company, Lexington, Kentucky, as Executor of Dr James K. Patterson.

A Biography of James Kennedy Patterson, President of the University of Kentucky from 1869 to 1910. Prepared by Mabel Hardy Pollitt, formerly Assistant Professor of Latin and Greek.

(6) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The Origins of Christianity in Aberdeenshire. Aberdeen, 1925.

The Castle of Tolquhon. Reprinted from the *Aberdeen University Review*, March 1925.

(7) By Professor A. M. TALLGREN, Honorary Fellow, the Author.

L'Orient et l'Occident dans l'Age du Fer Finno-Ougrien jusqu'au IX<sup>e</sup> siècle de notre ère. Helsingfors, 1924.

The Copper Idols from Galich, and their Relatives. Reprint from *Studia Orientalia Fennica I.*, 1925.

The following Communications were read:—

# I.

## THE DISCOVERY OF A SHORT CIST AT RENDALL, ORKNEY.

BY WILLIAM KIRKNESS, F.S.A.Scot.

Early this year, a short cist was discovered on the farm of Castle Rendall, by Mr John Sutherland, when levelling a small hillock which is situated 70 yards to the south of the farm buildings.

As part of this mound had been taken away when the Rendall public road was constructed, and as apparently soil has been removed from it many times, its original size and height are difficult to determine.

Mr Sutherland was digging earth from the top, when his pick went into a hole which proved to be a hollow filled with mud. After cutting a channel and draining off the water, Mr Sutherland cleaned out the cavity, but did not realise that he had found what seems to have been an ancient grave, until a tool-marked stone (see illustration) appeared at the bottom of the hollow. Immediately discontinuing the work, information was conveyed to Mr William T. Muir, Corr. Mem. S.A.Scot., who brought the discovery to my notice.

I visited the site on 27th April, when I found a basin 2 feet 8 inches in diameter and 2 feet deep. On examination, the lower part of the walls of this basin was seen to consist of hard clay and gravel. After carefully washing all loose earth from the sides, it was evident that the lower part of the cavity, for a height of 15 inches, had been grouted, making it perfectly watertight.

Mr Sutherland was able partially to reconstruct the short cist which had been placed in this hollow. Single stones had been used for the bottom and ends, a number of others laid flat, one upon another, formed the sides, and two or three were used for the cover. The size of the cist was about 20 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 15 inches deep. No burnt or unburnt bones were found in it. This may be due to such

DISCOVERY OF A SHORT CIST AT RENDALL, ORKNEY. 237

remains, if it were a grave, having completely decayed, or to their having been entirely removed when the cavity was first cleaned out.

The stone found in the grave is water-worn, of flattened discoidal



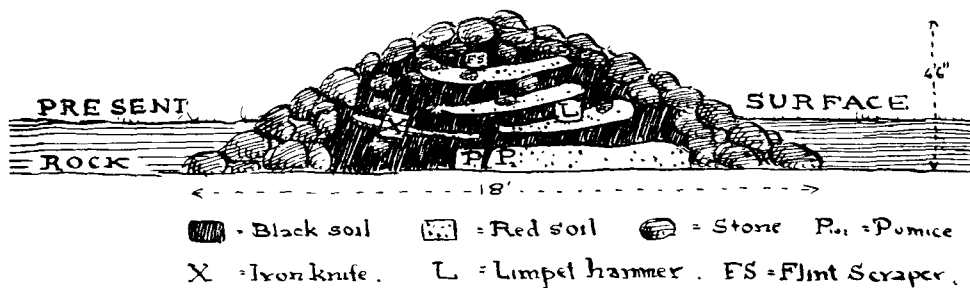
Indented Hammer-stone from a Grave at Castle,  
Rendall, Orkney. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ .)

shape, with pitted circular cavities on the top and bottom. It shows marks of abrasion round the greater part of the circumference, through use as a hammer-stone. The object measures  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest thickness. The cavities on the top and bottom sides measure about 2 inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in depth.

## II.

EXPLORATION OF A CAIRN ON CANNA. By THOMAS C.  
LETHBRIDGE. CAMBRIDGE.

A small cairn on the south side of Sanday and almost due south of Canna Pier was opened in June 1924. The cairn was one of a pair of small structures standing on the foreshore; before excavation it was 3 feet 6 inches above the ground and about 16 feet in diameter. The actual section is shown in the illustration.

SECTION of CAIRN.

Section of Cairn on Canna.

When the outer layer of stones had been removed, the mound was found to consist of alternating bands of red and black soil. The black soil was full of charcoal, and the red consisted of some burnt clay-like material.

The following objects were found during the excavation:—

1. Numerous shards of coarse hard-paste pottery dispersed throughout the mound. Amongst the shards, which are all hand-made, are three small rim fragments and two basal fragments; the latter are slightly everted. With one exception, which is of bright red ware, the potsherds are very dark in colour. It is impossible to tell the period of this pottery, but it is of the same class as that found in many kitchen-middens and brochs in the west of Scotland, and might easily go back to the early centuries of this era.

2. A small thumb scraper, measuring 7 inches by 6 inches across and 35 inches deep. It is of honey-coloured flint and very steep edged. Several other chips of flint occurred at different levels.

3. A small limpet hammer or hammer-stone 3·7 inches long.
4. A piece of an iron knife blade 1 inch long, and another iron fragment.
5. Two bits of pumice of irregular shape. One of these pieces of pumice, which measures 1·55 inch in length and 1·3 inch at greatest breadth, has a perforation running through it longitudinally; this has been picked out with a pin or some similar instrument.
6. Numerous very minute fragments of burnt bone, not certainly human.

The whole probably represents the remains of a funeral pyre scraped up and covered by a heap of stones.

No urn or cist was discovered.

### III.

#### NOTES ON DISCOVERIES IN ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL, KIRKWALL.

By JOHN MOONEY, F.S.A.Scot.

When the restoration of St Magnus Cathedral was begun by Sheriff Thoms' Trustees, a hope was entertained that many relics would be found in the course of the operations. That expectation has not been fully realised; but if the relics discovered have not been numerous, it cannot be said they are uninteresting or unimportant. Of chief interest was an oak case containing human bones found on 31st March 1919 in one of the pillars. Another interesting "find" was made in the first week of February this year by workmen engaged in excavating tracks for pipes in connection with the installation of an organ. Four skeletons buried in a row, heads to the west, were found in the choir between the two lines of pillars, right on the main axis of the church; and in one of the graves the upper portion of a crosier and what appears to be a chalice and paten were also found. It may be as well to give particulars of these graves and the relics mentioned before dealing with the bones in the wooden case, as the latter have been supposed to form part of the skeleton of St Magnus, and cannot be satisfactorily considered without special references to bones found in another pillar last century.

It is necessary to keep in view the extension of the Cathedral eastward, which was not completed until probably at least 150 years after the death of the founder. The accompanying ground-plan of the choir (fig. 1) shows the termination of Rognvald's building about the

middle of piers D and L;<sup>1</sup> but Dryden, Meyer, and Dietrichson give good reasons for believing that an apse extended from the original eastern portions of those piers. No certain trace of an apse was found during the restoration works. The original high altar would have stood

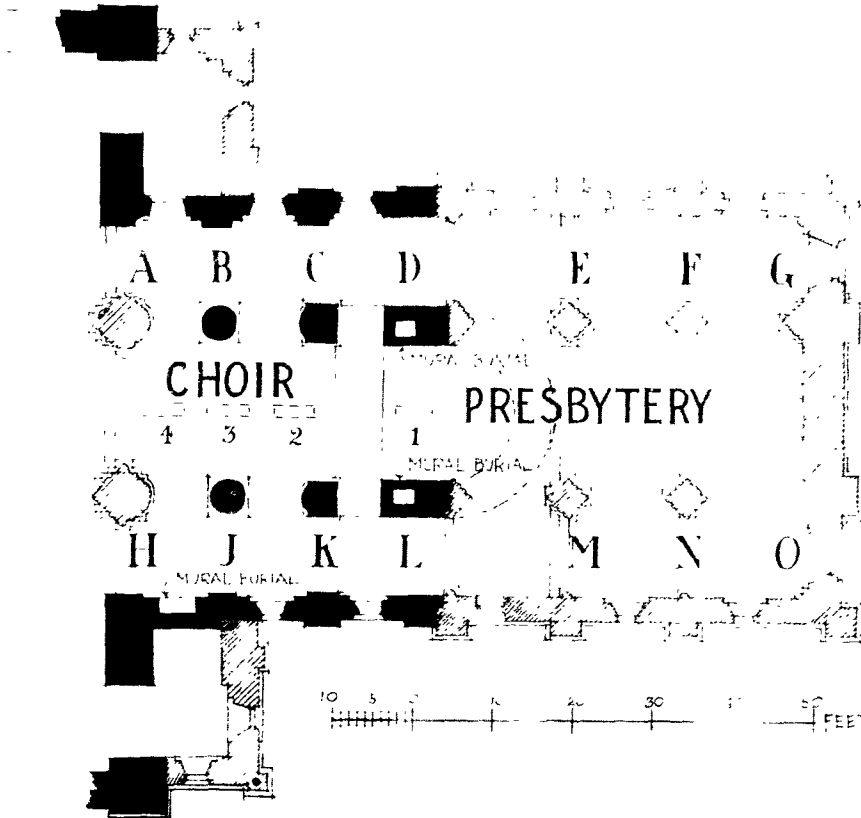


Fig. 1. Plan of Eastern End of St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall.

between piers D and L. and after the extension of the choir, between G and O, or between the farthest east bays.

It will be seen that the four graves found last February were all in the oldest part of the Cathedral. The skeleton nearest the site of the first high altar had been buried with the head about 18 inches from a line flush with the western ends of piers D and L. The

<sup>1</sup> The letters used by Dryden for distinguishing the pillars are followed in this plan so as to facilitate references.

wood of the coffin was not greatly decayed; and, from the appearance of the bones, this grave, which may be called "No. 1," must have been the latest of the four, made undoubtedly at a date subsequent to the removal of the high altar from its original position.

Grave "No. 2" extended westwards from opposite the middle of pillar K.

The foot of grave "No. 3" touched a point in line with the east side of the base of round pillars B and J.

The position of "No. 4" grave was to the west of those pillars. There were slight traces of what may have been coffins in graves 2, 3, and 4, a sort of black dust being visible. The distance between Nos. 1 and 2 was 10 feet, and between the others 2 feet 6 inches.

The western portion of the choir, where those skeletons lay, had been outside the lines of excavations when the Government restoration and repairs were carried out in 1848; and so, too, during the alterations and refitting of the choir by the Heritors and Town Council in 1855-6. In the eastern part of the choir the bones of bishops and earls had been removed wholesale at the time of the latter operations, but the four graves described above had been undisturbed.

Nothing further need be recorded of Nos. 2 and 4, but No. 3 calls for special notice. In this grave, the bottom of which was only 2 feet 3 inches below the surface, the crosier and other relics referred to were found (fig. 2). The crosier lay on the breast of the skeleton. It is made of pewter or lead, and has a socket (part of it broken) of the same material. The diameter of the circular head is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and not over  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch thick. Round the edge are two concentric parallel lines less than  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch apart. About  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch from the inner of those lines are another pair of parallel lines, within which is a curvilinear Maltese cross, having the inter-arms cut out. Parallel lines also run along both sides of each arm of the cross. It was not unusual to place in the grave of a bishop a rude imitation of his pastoral staff.

Near the foot of this grave were found what cannot be other than a chalice and paten, made of metal similar to that of the crosier. Small portions of the chalice have been broken off. Its diameter at the top is 4 inches, and the depth about 1 inch. A rent runs from the broken part to the centre. On the lower side are indications that it had been fixed to a stand.

The paten measures 5 inches in diameter. It, too, has a border of double parallel lines similar to those on the circular head of the crosier. The inner pair of lines enclose a circle in which are inscribed four small circles, separated by straight lines intersecting each other at right angles. A portion of the edge has been broken off.



In addition to the chalice and paten some gold threads were found in the grave, near the breast of the skeleton: the gold threads were, no doubt, remains of vestments. The crosier, the gold threads, chalice, and paten can lead to only one conclusion—that the skeleton is that of a bishop. The position of the grave—in the oldest part of the

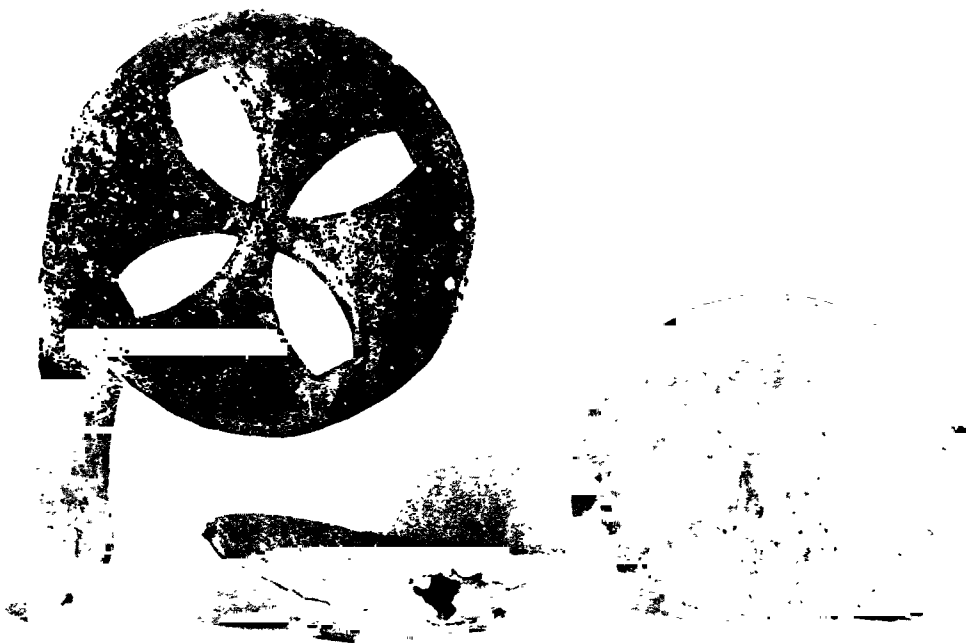


Fig. 2. Head of Crosier, Chalice, and Paten of Lead or Pewter from Kirkwall Cathedral.

Cathedral, which was untouched by the alterations and excavations in 1848 and 1855—suggests that these are remains of a bishop who died before the high altar was shifted from its original place. Bishop William the Old would have been buried close to the first high altar, but, as we know, his skeleton had been exhumed and re-interred near the new high altar. There is no record where William II., Bjarni, Jofreyr, Henry—the first four bishops who succeeded him—were laid. If, as Meyer suggests, it was Henry who built the extension to the

choir, he also may have been buried near the later high altar. As to whether the skeleton in grave No. 3 was one of the others, no proof is available. The crosier head and the lines of ornamentation of the paten indicate, however, a period long prior to the Reformation, possibly the thirteenth century.

Of pre-Reformation bishops buried in the Cathedral evidence is altogether lacking, except as regards two—William the Old and Thomas de Tulloch. Robert Maxwell apparently died in Orkney, but there is no record of his burial. It is known that Robert Honeyman and

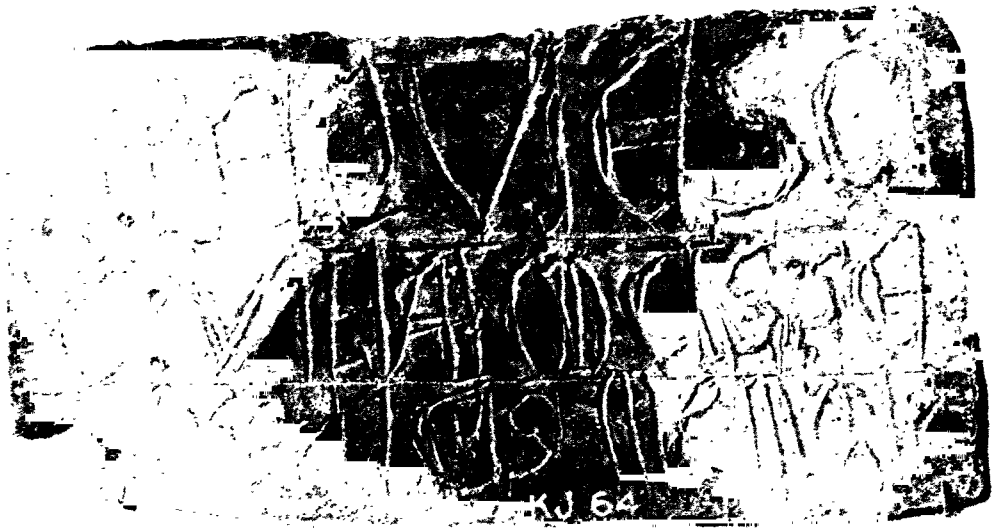


Fig. 3. Plate of Lead from Kirkwall Cathedral. (†.)

Murdoch Mackenzie—post-Reformation bishops—found a resting-place there, the former near bay M and N, the latter in the south transept chapel.

The Government repairs on the Cathedral in 1848 led to the discovery of the remains of William the Old in a stone cist between pillars E and F. Among the drawings by Sir Henry Dryden, now in the possession of Thoms' Trustees, are those of two slabs which covered that grave. In the cist was found the leaden plate (fig. 3) described in the *Proceedings* of this Society, vol. v. p. 217, with the inscription H. REQVIESCIT: WILIAMVS: SENEX FELICIS MEMORIE on the front and PMVS EPIS on the back. The plate and a relic of bone

and iron, supposed to be the head of a staff,<sup>1</sup> were presented to the Society on 8th February 1864 by the Lords of H.M. Treasury.

The Society received from the same source, on the same date, the crosier of oak (fig. 4), with chalice (fig. 5) and paten of wax, found in 1848 in a tomb supposed to be that of Bishop Thomas Tulloch (1422-55). This tomb had been between pillars M and N.



Fig. 4. Crosier of Oak from Kirkwall Cathedral.



Fig. 5. Wax Chalice from Kirkwall Cathedral.

Wallace, in his *History of Orkney*, refers to the tomb which must have been this one, although he says it was William Tulloch's. "This Bishop built a stately monument for a burial-place to himself in the Cathedral Kirk, which continued a great decorement till about the year 1660, when it was pulled down" (p. 64, Small's edition). Was it then that Cromwell's soldiers robbed the tomb of its copper ornamentation, as

<sup>1</sup> Dr Craven said this type of staff had been used by bishops of the early Greek Church. It may have been brought from the East by the Bishop when he accompanied Earl Rognvald to Constantinople and the Holy Land (*Orkneyinga Saga*, pp. 179-81, Rolls Edition).

recorded in Hossack's *Kirkwall in the Orkneys*? Fragments of the tomb were found in 1890 in a wall surrounding the old Town Hall, and some pieces are still preserved with other carved stones in the room above the south transept chapel.

In the wall of the south choir aisle a grave containing a skeleton was found, 3 feet 9 inches from the floor, immediately under the dark cell known locally as "Marwick's Hole." It is opposite the bay H J. This grave is covered by a lintel, 5 feet 8 inches long, and protected in the front by six blocks of red freestone. The length of the grave is 4 feet 8 inches. The bones were in a good state of preservation. The back of the skull had a fracture. The jaw was thought to be of a prehistoric type. Dryden, who had seen the skeleton, regarded it as that of a young man.

Some have imagined that this is the skeleton of Earl Erlend who was killed in a fight at Damsay; he could hardly have been out of his twenties when he met his death. The grave was undoubtedly that of a person of rank. The *Orkneyinga Saga* states that Erlend's body was brought to St Magnus Church. Torfæus is more definite, and says (*Torfæana*, p. 156) "the Earl's body was buried in the Cathedral." There is, however, no real clue as to whose grave this is.

At this stage mention should be made of bones found in a cavity on the east side of pier D, 8 feet 6 inches above the base, more than seventy years ago. A minute description was given by the late George Petrie, and is printed by Dryden on pp. 62-4 of his *Church of St Magnus*. These bones were regarded by many at that time as relics of St Magnus. The skull had evidently received a wound which was described by Petrie as follows:—"There was an indentation  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch long,  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch broad, and about  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch deep, on the top of the skull, commencing at the point where the sagittal suture joins the coronal suture and extending backwards." It was perhaps this scalp wound which led to the supposition that the skull was that of St Magnus who met his death by a blow from an axe. On the other hand, Petrie's description adds:—"The wound had not apparently been the cause of death, but seemed to be an old one." The late Marquis of Bute (see Hunter-Blair's *Biography*) was not convinced that those were St Magnus' bones. They were carefully examined in his presence by two local doctors. The Marquis paid another visit to Kirkwall in 1886, and although the relics were popularly regarded as those of St Magnus, he believed they were not those of "St Magnus at all, but probably those of Earl St Rognvald." The bones were, after each examination, replaced in the pillar, and the entrance to the cavity filled up.

What may prove the most interesting find in the Cathedral are the bones in the north face of pillar L (on the south side of the choir).

They were contained in an oaken case with a loose cover, in a cavity somewhat similar to the one in the corresponding north pier, at a height of 9 feet  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the floor of the choir. On 2nd April 1919 these bones were carefully examined by Dr Heddle, Kirkwall, under the direction of the Provost and Magistrates (Thoms' Trustees). The following is Dr Heddle's report :—

DESCRIPTION OF BONES FOUND IN THE NORTH FACE OF THE LARGE PILLAR ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE CHOIR OF ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL. (The pillar is marked "L" on the plan on p. 25 of Dryden's description of the Church. The bones were found in a wood casket. Supposed to be those of St Magnus.)

*Skull.*—Diameter between occipital protuberance and nasal eminence,  $7\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

Surface measurement between above points,  $11\frac{3}{8}$  inches. Transverse diameter between temporal bones,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. Measurement between ears over apex of skull,  $12\frac{1}{8}$  inches. The bones of the skull were of average thickness.

The skull showed a clean-cut hole in the parietal bones, which had evidently been done by a sharp instrument, such as an axe; the hole showed a sharp perpendicular cut through both layers of the bone; the instrument had then turned and glanced backwards off the skull, removing a piece of the outer layer of the bone.

The upper jaw had been cut from before, backwards, by a sharp instrument, probably a sword, slightly above the junction of the crowns and the fangs of the teeth, leaving the jaw with a clean, smooth-cut appearance with all the roots of the teeth still in their sockets. This cut extended backwards through the eminentia articularis on the one side, but not on the other, showing that the head had not been severed from the body by the blow.

The hole in the skull and the cut through the jaw still showed distinctly, even after the long time that had elapsed, showing that they have been done while the bones were in their living state.

There were other holes in the skull, the result of decay; but their appearance showed a striking difference.

*Other Bones found along with the above.*

Right and left femur, 19 inches in length.

A small portion of a patella.

Right and left tibia,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length.

Right and left fibula, 15 inches in length.

Right and left humerus: these had their lower ends decayed away.

Right and left radius.

One ulna.

Right and left acetabulum, with small portion of the os innominatum surrounding it.

A part of the right scapula, showing the glenoid cavity, acromion, and coracoid processes.

The acromion process of the left scapula.

Left astragalus; two cuneiforms: one cuboid; right os calcis.

Left scaphoid: first left metatarsal, and seven other metatarsals.

Two pieces of rib, 2 inches and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch respectively.

Also a spinous process of a vertebra.

The old idea that the bones of St Magnus were those in the north pier was now abandoned. The skull in the south pier had wounds which correspond more closely with the account given in the *Sagas* of the blow (or blows) that caused the death of Magnus; and it was imagined these were the relics of St Magnus, and the others in the opposite pier must have been St Rognvald's.

In the *Saga* account of the murder of Earl Rognvald, it is stated that "the Sword came on the Earl's chin, and that was a great wound." It should be noted that Petrie says, "A lower human jaw-bone was found with the other bones, but it evidently did not belong to the skull beside which it lay, but to a much older person than the skull indicated." The absence of a jaw-bone with the indication of a wound does not prove that the skull was not that of Earl Rognvald.

Turning to the *Saga* report of what transpired when Earl Magnus and his cousin, Earl Hacon, were face to face, and the executioner had received his orders to slay Magnus, we read (on p. 81, Rolls edition) that Magnus said to Lifolf, "'Stand thou before me and hew me on my head a great wound, for it beseems not to chop off chiefs' heads like thieves.' . . . After that he signed himself with the cross and bowed himself to the stroke." The *Short Magnus Saga* uses almost the same words, but concludes:—"He bowed him under the stroke, and was smitten in mid-forehead with a single blow." The account in *Saga the Longer*, differs from the others:—"Lifolf hewed him on the head a great blow with an axe. Then Earl Hacon said, 'Hew thou a second time.' Then Lifolf hewed into the same wound. Then St Magnus the Earl fell on his knees, and fared with this martyrdom from the wretchedness of this world." Obviously there is an inaccuracy in the *Longer Magnus Saga*. After Magnus had received "a great blow on the head" with an axe, it

cannot be conceived that he could have remained standing till Hacon gave instructions for a second blow to be dealt, which latter blow brought him to his knees. It may be noted that Vigfusson, in his preface to the Icelandic text of the *Orkneyinga Saga*, says:—"The Short Life is the best representative of the primitive text, and the best authority." The part of Dr Heddle's report which might lead us to doubt whether the skull was that of Earl Magnus is the following: "The upper jaw had been cut from before, backwards, by a sharp instrument, probably a sword, slightly above the crown and the fangs of the teeth, leaving the jaw with a clean, smooth-cut appearance with all the roots of the teeth still in their sockets." But if a second blow was given, the Earl must have been on the ground, and the cut in the upper jaw could have resulted from the position of the head at the time the weapon descended. The wounds in the skull, Dr Heddle's report, and the *Saga* references may, or may not, prove the relics to be those of St Magnus. The object of this paper is merely to communicate data. While that is so, there are other points than those we have already considered which may guide us in our investigations.

We know that St Magnus was buried in the Cathedral. "Earl Magnus was borne to Hrossey (Mainland) and buried at that Christ's Church (in Birsay) which Earl Thorfin made them make" (*Orkneyinga Saga*, p. 83). "After that the Bishop sent to fetch him the most noble men in the Orkneys, and made it plain to them that he was ready then to search the tomb of Earl Magnus. . . . And when it was dug into, the coffin was taken out of the ground. . . . Then the body was laid in a shrine and set over the altar" (p. 91). In the *Short Magnus Saga* we have the following:—"After that William fared east to Kirkwall with a worthy company and brought thither the halidom of Earl Magnus. The shrine was set over the altar in the church that is there"—St Olaf's. This was before the building of the Cathedral was begun. There had been gold ornamentation on the shrine of St Magnus when it lay on the altar of St Olaf's Church, Kirkwall, for we read in the *Shorter Magnus Saga* that "two men broke off gold from the shrine of Earl Magnus the Saint: one was a Caithness man, but the other was an Orkney man" (p. 299). This is also stated in the *Longer Saga*.

When sufficient progress had been made with the building of the Cathedral, we learn from the same chapter of the *Shorter Saga* that "the halidom of Earl Magnus was brought thither." The Orkney Sagas thus record the burial and enshrinement of the remains of St Magnus in Christ's Church, Birsay, their translation to St Olaf's Church, Kirkwall, where the costly shrine lay for some years, and their subsequent transference to the church erected by Earl Rognvald. In the *Saga* of

Hakon Hakonson it is told that the King, while staying in the Bishop's Palace, entered the Cathedral in 1263 and walked round the shrine of St Magnus.

Earl Rognvald, too, found a resting-place in the Cathedral. *Orkneyinga Saga*, p. 219:—"Earl Harald and his men fared with the body away thence (from Caithness) out into the Orkneys with a goodly company, and bestowed burial on it, in St Magnus Church in the choir; and there he rested until Bishop Bjarni caused his halidom (relics) to be taken up by the Pope's leave."

This was in 1192. It should be noted that Torfæus says "that the corpse of Earl Rognvald was brought to Orkney and buried in the Holy Virgin's temple till it became famous for miracles, and then it was taken away from thence by Biarnius the Bishop, and by order of the Pope of Rome Earl Rognvald was canonised in the year 1192, and then the body was buried in the Cathedral." The *Saga* is the earlier authority and should be considered the more trustworthy. Earl Harald, who undoubtedly instigated the murder of Rognvald, may have at first prevented the burial in the Cathedral of its founder. That seems the only explanation why the body could have been placed elsewhere if the Cathedral was not the only place of his burial.

As to the exact parts of the Cathedral where the relics of the two island saints were first laid, there is no authentic record. Seeing the shrine of St Magnus had been placed on the altar in Christ's Church, Birsay, and in St Olaf's, Kirkwall, would not a similar honour have been accorded to him in the great building erected in his memory? At all events, the bones of both St Magnus and St Rognvald, the builder, would have been held in great veneration, and we cannot conceive of their having been placed anywhere but near the altar (if the shrine of St Magnus did not lie on the altar). It has been seen that the bones of Bishop William had been removed with the altar to the east end of the extended choir. The skeletons of the saints would, undoubtedly, have been removed at the same time to the vicinity of the high altar in its new position. Why and when were they again disturbed and placed in secret chambers apparently prepared for them, and out of reach of the people? Was it to hide them from possible destruction at the hands of iconoclastic reformers? Whatever answers we may now give to such questions, it is obvious the bones had been preserved with special care. The attention given them by enclosing them high up in a pillar without any distinguishing mark cannot fail to suggest to many the possibility that they were the relics of the Orkney saints, hidden away at a time of religious revolution. The skeletons certainly must be those of highly important personages having a special connection with the Cathedral.



Who more likely than St Magnus and St Rognvald? If the relics are not theirs, whose can they be? Both were murdered and were buried in the Cathedral built by one of them and dedicated to the other, and with the exception of the Earl Erlend (whose bones are supposed by some to lie in the mural grave in the south choir aisle), no other Orkney Earls since the time of St Magnus met a violent death.

Grateful thanks are hereby recorded to Provost White and his colleagues of the Thoms Trust, for permission to use Dr Heddle's report on the supposed St Magnus' bones, and for access to the notes and drawings by the late Sir Henry Dryden, which the Trust recently acquired; also to Mr J. Graham Callander, Director of the National Museum, and to Mr William J. Heddle, Town Clerk of Kirkwall, for valuable suggestions. The ground-plan of choir of St Magnus Cathedral (fig. 1) was prepared by Mr James S. Richardson, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, and the illustration of relics (fig. 2) is from a photograph by Mr T. Kent, Kirkwall, to both of whom our indebtedness is acknowledged.

Since this paper was set up, the Thoms' Trustees (the Provost and Magistrates of Kirkwall) have had the cavities in the rectangular pillars D and L re-opened, and the skulls and bones taken out, so that these supposed remains of St Magnus and St Rognvald might be subjected to an exhaustive anthropological examination by Professor R. W. Reid, M.D., F.R.C.S., Regius Professor of Anatomy in Aberdeen University. When it is remembered that the Professor is a member of the Council of the Royal Anthropological Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and late President of the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, it will be realised that the Trustees have been well advised in selecting such a distinguished expert to report to them as to the identification or otherwise of the supposed remains of the Orkney Saints. The re-opening of the pillars has afforded an opportunity of obtaining measurements of the wooden case which contained the bones in pillar L, and of the cavities in it and in pillar D—particulars which were not available when the paper was read.

The following are the dimensions of the wooden case: Outside measurements—length,  $29\frac{1}{4}$  inches; breadth,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches; depth,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Inside depth,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Thickness of wood, 1 inch. The wood was not oak, as had been supposed, but common Norwegian redwood. Pins made of wood, not iron nails, hold the boards together. When first discovered it was thought the case had been gnawed by rats

at one of the corners, but now, on being closely examined, it was seen that natural decay was responsible for its present condition.

Dimensions of cavities or chambers. In pillar D—length, 36 inches: breadth, 18 inches at west end of cavity, and 16 inches at east or inner end. Height varies from 13 inches to 16 inches. In pillar L—length,  $31\frac{1}{2}$  inches; breadth, 12 inches; height,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches. These internal measurements are not absolutely accurate, for the sides, tops, and bottom are somewhat irregular, and not uniform and smooth, as the chambers would have been if made at the time the piers were erected. Rubble stones in the interior of the pillar had been torn from their places in the masonry until the holes were made sufficiently large to hold the human remains. First of all, some of the dressed blocks of ashlar freestone which form the external facing of the pillars had been removed, and when the bones were deposited in their lofty graves, the blocks (averaging from 6 inches to 8 inches thick) were replaced. The chamber in pillar D therefore extended to within 6 or 8 inches of the west face of the pillar, and to the same distance from the *south* face, while that in pillar L also extended to 6 or 8 inches from the west face, and as near to the *north* face of pillar L. It will thus be seen that both chambers extended lengthwise, east and west.

It will be interesting to learn when Professor Reid's report is published whether his investigations have tended to confirm the identification of the human remains in the two pillars of the choir as those of St Magnus and St Rognvald.

## IV.

RECENT DISCOVERIES IN ARRAN. BY LUDOVIC M'LELLAN MANN.  
F.S.A.Scot.

## I. A ROUND CAIRN NEAR CARMAHOME.

I have to report the results of the exploration in Arran of a round cairn with passage, central chamber, and ring of stones. Mr James Craig had for some time become inquisitive regarding a heather-grown mound on high ground—moorland—above his farm of Carmahome, Kilpatrick, Shiskine, on the middle-west coast of the island. As the tops of some stones protruded through the heather, he dug to a depth of about 12 inches, and found that they were vertical slabs set circularly within the mound. The space outside these was filled with small rounded stones, evidently rubble, gathered in olden times from the adjoining surface of the ground.

On excavating the space within the circular setting he discovered a deposit of 2 feet of peat and earth, and a few loose stones filling a hollow. The peat growth was some 20 inches in depth on the south-west side but only 9 inches on the opposite side. Into the hollow the stones had apparently fallen during the growth of the peat. These were taken to be part of a rough and uneven pavement. He then stopped operations and invited my co-operation.

I went to Arran, and with Mr Craig, Mr John Woolley, Blackwaterfoot, and Mr Stewart of Glasgow, examined the cairn. It is round, about  $20\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter, and of an unusual and interesting type (fig. 1).

A long heathery ridge, the top of which (453 feet above Ordnance datum) is called Cnocan à Chranuchuir, or "The Hillock of the Casting of the Lots," is 669½ feet distant, and, looking from the cairn, the orientation is 335 degrees east of north magnetic.

We dug deeper into the cairn, and the supposed rough pavement turned out to be loose stones fallen into the central cavity and embedded in peat growth. These stones were lifted out, and at a depth of about 3 feet from the original heathery top we came upon a perfectly level flooring consisting of two large slabs and a small one, all neatly laid and fitting one into the other.

This pavement was the flooring of a well-constructed circular chamber, with walls formed of vertically set slabs. The floor was swept and the soil carefully sifted by riddle and hand, but no relics

were found. It is clear that the contents of the chamber had been subjected to some previous scrutiny, and that the chamber itself had originally been covered by a capstone, removed a considerable time ago for building or other purposes.

On the west side of the chamber there was an opening and a passage set radially from it, the axis lying slightly south-of-west. At

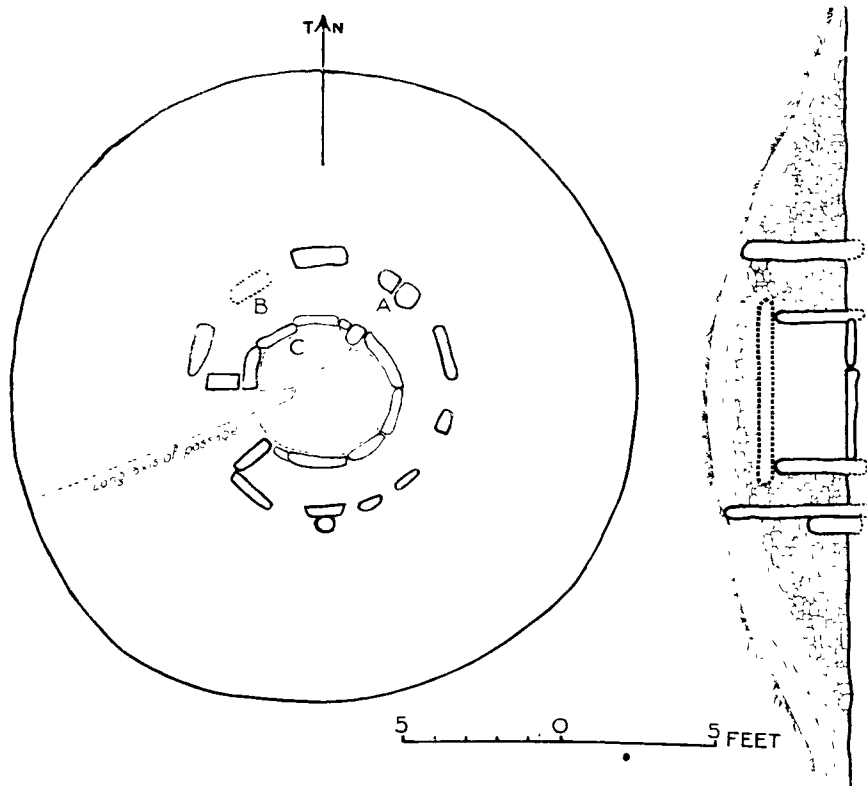


Fig. 1. Plan and Section of Cairn near Carmahome, Kilpatrick, Arran.

a little more than 4 feet radius from the centre was found a circular setting, originally of ten massive upright stones equi-distantly placed and about 3 feet apart. The peat was cleared from a large portion of the surface of the cairn so as to make sure of the exact position of the ring of uprights. One (A in fig. 1) was worn and fractured, and another (B) had almost disappeared, probably by decay. The margin of the cairn extended about 6 feet beyond this ring of upright stones.

The medium-sized paving stone (C) was lifted and fine soil was found underlying it. This was carefully sifted and a fine flint knife

discovered (fig. 2). It measures 2·78 inches in length and 1·54 inch in breadth, and is dressed only on one face. The largest flooring slab was not disturbed. To have done so would have injured the structure beyond repair.

On the second day of the digging photographs were taken by Mr James B. Jenkins of Shedog, and I plotted out the whole structure.



Fig. 2. Flint Knife from Cairn at Carnahome, Kilpatrick, Arran. (½.)

It may be here noted that on Kilpatrick Moor, Arran, about 1910, an axe-head of felstone inserted in a piece of much decayed wood was found under 15 feet of peat. Mr Peter M'Kelvie, farmer at Kilpatrick, had it for some time, but it is now lost.

## II. FLANGED BRONZE AXES FROM PIRNMILL.

In September last Mr James M'Millan, Woodside, Pirnmill, Arran, when cutting some soil to prepare for the building of a small water-

tank, came across three fragments of bronze axe-heads of the flanged or early palstave type.

These he sent to the *Daily Record* office, and Mr Anderson, the

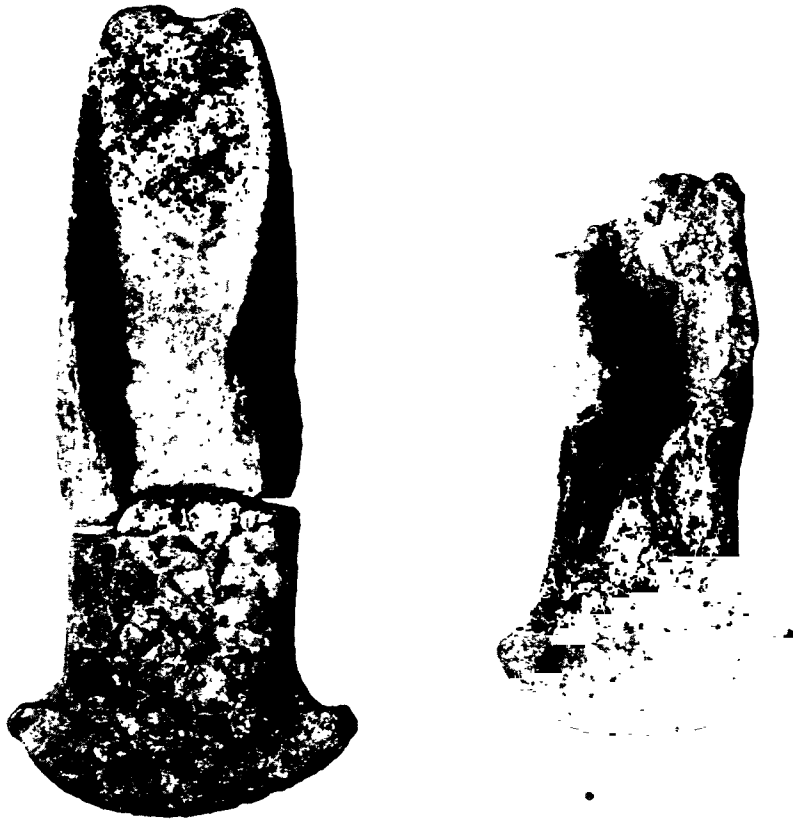


Fig. 3. Flanged Bronze Axes from Pirnmill, Arran. (1.)

editor, asked me to examine them. I then, with Mr Stewart of that office, went to Pirnmill to make further inquiry. The building of the tank had been proceeded with and the site of the discovery built upon before we arrived. However, with the assistance of several willing helpers, the whole place was dug over near the tank and the soil was carefully examined, without securing any further relics.

The place of the deposit is situated east from, and just behind, Mr McMillan's house, and half-way up the steep hill-face, about 80 feet high, the base of which is the landward limit of the 25-foot raised beach. The cliff here forms a hollow crescentic front, and the deposit was placed exactly in the centre, as if the spot had been chosen because it could be readily found again.

The axe-heads (fig. 3) are slightly flanged, without loop or socket or even stop-ridges, and belong perhaps to the early part of the middle period of the Bronze Age, about 1400-1200 B.C. Two of the pieces fit together to form an axe 4 inches in length, 1.85 inch across the cutting face, and 1.23 inch across the flanges; and the other fragment, which consists of the front part of a similar but smaller axe, measures 1.68 inch across the cutting edge and 1.23 inch across the flanges. Both axes have the ends of the cutting edge well recurved backwards, and are smaller than the average of their type.

The axe-heads are very similar, yet were made in different moulds.

The little hoard was probably left by an itinerant founder; it was not a merchant's stock or a personal hoard. The axes were old before they were deposited in the ground, as they have anciently been broken up into convenient fragments, perhaps for the crucible.

Of seven contemporary previously recorded Scottish hoards of bronze objects, dating to the flanged axe period, four contained axes of this type, and this is a fifth. All come from the south-western district of Scotland, except a hoard from Farr, Sutherland, consisting of two looped specimens. The Farr specimens being fully developed palstaves are certainly not so old as those from Arran. The other three hoards were found respectively at Balcarry, Wigtownshire, Caldon's Hill, in the same county, and at Glentworth, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.

V.

THE OLD-CELTIC INSCRIBED AND SCULPTURED STONE AT AUQUHOLLIE, KINCARDINESHIRE, AND OGAM IN SCOTLAND. BY FRANCIS C. DIACK, M.A., ABERDEEN.

This monument, locally known as the Lang Steen, is situated at the side of a farm-road between the farms of Easter and Nether Auquhollie,

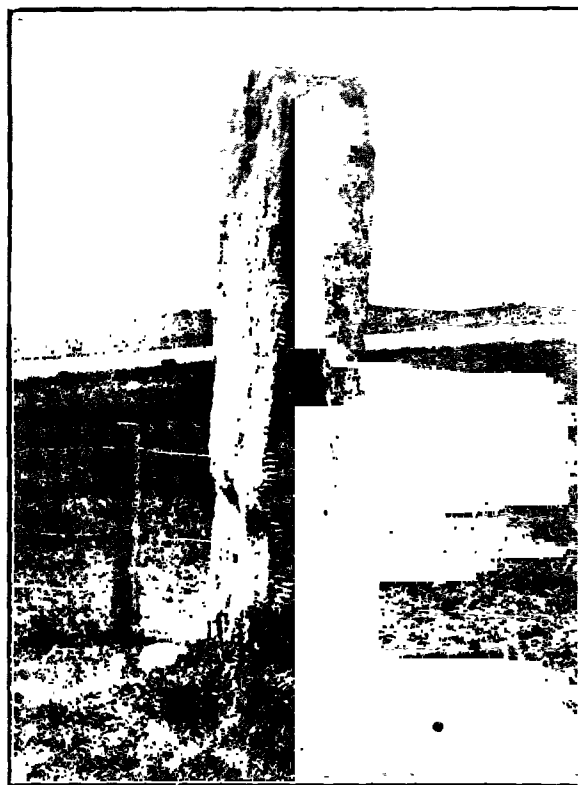


Fig. 1. Standing Stone bearing an Ogam Inscription and Symbols at Auquhollie, Kincardineshire.

in the parish of Fetteresso, Kincardineshire, about 5 miles north-west of Stonehaven. It is a large, unshaped monolith of quartzose gneiss, of a rude but impressive appearance, 8 feet 6 inches high and of an irregularly rectangular form. The girth is roughly about 7 feet. It is the only inscribed monument of the earliest period, north of the Forth.



which still stands undisturbed where it was originally placed; for it is safe to say that there would have been no motive in later times to change its position, or that, if it had once fallen down, anyone would have taken the trouble of re-erecting such a mass (fig. 1). According to the Earl of Southesk, whose notice was written some forty years ago, it is "said to have formed part of a circle recently removed." I have not been able to verify this. There was, it seems, a circle of stones not far off, whence the local name, Langstanes, of a former holding now absorbed in Nether Auquhollie, but I could find no proof that this stone belonged to that circle, and all experience is against it, since alphabetic writing has never been found on such circles.

In the *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, p. xx, the stone is described as belonging to the early class of monuments "with nothing but the inscriptions incised upon them." This is an oversight, for on the north-east face there can be seen certain sculpturings, to be referred to below, which are elsewhere well known and in virtue of which the stone is to be included among our early inscribed and sculptured monuments.

## I.

1. It was not till 1886 that the existence of ogam lettering was first pointed out by the late Rev. J. G. Michie, minister of Dinnet, Aberdeenshire. Since then readings have appeared by the Earl of Southesk,<sup>1</sup> Rhys,<sup>2</sup> Nicholson,<sup>3</sup> and Romilly Allen.<sup>4</sup> The inscription is on the south-east angle and extends over a length of 52 inches (fig. 2). In contrast with those on many early stones, it is not only quite complete, but it has not suffered material damage at any point. The deterioration that it, or indeed the surface of the stone

Fig. 2. Ogam Inscription at Auquhollie, Kincardineshire.

in general, exhibits is due practically to gradual weathering only. The weathering is in parts rather severe, though never, in my opinion, to the extent of raising serious difficulty; and on the whole the inscription can be described as quite legible when studied with care, though somewhat faded in parts.<sup>5</sup> The angle of the stone, which except near the

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xx, p. 37.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. xxvi, p. 270, and xxxii, p. 348.

<sup>3</sup> *Vernacular Inscriptions of Alban.* p. 4.

<sup>4</sup> *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, pt. iii, p. 203.

<sup>5</sup> "I think that the stone might be read with certainty if it could be cleared of the lichen." Rhys in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xxvi, p. 271.

beginning forms a nearly straight edge, is used as the stem-line, and the vowels are circular notches cut in it. The consonant scores are on the average from 2 to 3 inches in length; they come up close to, but are not meant quite to reach, the edge, which is reserved for the vowels alone. They are carefully spaced, parallel to each other, and had been originally deeply cut.

The inscription begins at about 20 inches from the ground and reads upwards. As usual there is no division of words and no punctuation. The first consonant is *v*, and most readings begin with it, but before it there is an *a*. Rhys saw this letter ("It is possible that before the *v* there was an *a*") but could not make up his mind to read it. I think it is clearly there, followed by *vuo*, all quite clear. The spacing of the group *u* is not perfectly regular, the first notch being separated from the second by a slightly greater space than the second is from the third, so that taken by itself this group might be held to read *ao*; but on the other hand, when the rest of the inscription is looked at, the division between the *a* and the *o* is too small to be meant for a space separating vowels. After *aruo*, the edge turns sharply to the left and the inscriber follows it. Just before the *n* there is a deeply cut *a* which has hitherto been missed. It is as clear as any character in the inscription, and though it is rather broader than usual, it can only be a vowel from its position and from the context, that is to say the vowel *a*. The following *n* calls for no comment, being certain, but there is room for difference of opinion regarding the next vowel. Two unmistakable notches follow the *n*, and then there is a space between the second of these and the first score of the next *n*. Rhys and Romilly Allen read *o*, neglecting this apparently blank space. But, in the first place, uninscribed blanks in a position like this are against ogam usage; even were there no trace of a vowel notch here it would be legitimate to postulate its having existed, as is often done with convincing results in such circumstances. But secondly, the third notch though very faint has not quite vanished, I think. If the space is examined in profile against the sky from the left, the letter can be seen to consist of a group of three notches, that is, *u*. Another clear *n* follows. Between the last score of it and the first of the next consonant *t* there is a distance of 8 inches occupied by vowels. Rhys reads *i*, *i.e.* five notches, and Allen tentatively the same. But if we use as modulus the space occupied by the two *e*'s further on, the space necessary for an *i* would be only 4 inches instead of the 8 we have. It is, however, unnecessary to resort to this indirect argument, seeing that the vowel notches are there to be counted and read. There are eight of them altogether, arranged in

groups.<sup>1</sup> After the last score of *n* we have a group of four, that is, *e*. I am not sure, however, that this is what the inscriber cut. If we read the four, the first three are too crowded and the fourth too far away and yet not far enough away to belong to a different group. This tempts one to regard the second of the four as not part of the letter but due to some accident or weathering, and to read two vowels, viz. *ao*, giving a more regular spacing. After this there is a short uninscribed space followed by a group of three notches, and that in turn followed by a similar uninscribed distance and then a single notch, *a*. The whole series, therefore, between *n* and *t* is either *eua* or (more probably) *aoua*. Thereafter come the letters *tedor*, agreed on by all. At this point Rhys closes the legend but quotes Romilly Allen as suggesting after the *r* "a gap followed by four notches." Three letters can be read after *r*. First a group of four vowel notches. These are best seen from the left. The first is faint, the second and third clearer, while the fourth, barely visible, can be supplied from its position in front of a group of five consonant scores. This *n* is very much weathered, especially the ends of the scores. Their beginnings are clearer, and Romilly Allen's "four notches" are doubtless four of them. This letter is best seen when the sun is just passing off that face. By this point the angle has almost disappeared and the succeeding vowel is cut on what is nearly a flat surface. It consists of five notches, all of them faint but visible, especially when looked at against the sky from the north-east. The hollows too can all be felt. There is no sign of any scores or notches beyond this, and the inscription ends here. It fills the inscribable space so exactly that the craftsman must have drawn it out in some coloured material before beginning to cut the letters, a practice which we must suppose was the usual rule with inscriptions on stone.

The complete legend therefore runs *avuoanunaouatedoveni*, or possibly with *e* instead of *ao*. The verbiage of this can be arrived at without much difficulty. *Doveni* at the end is a known word and also *uate* in front of it, while the remainder divides naturally into *Avuo* and *Anunao*. Divided into its separate words the inscription thus stands

#### AVUO ANUNAO UATE DOVENI

<sup>1</sup> Rhys says, "I could not decide whether to count four considerable depressions or exactly twice the number by including less perceptible ones." I cannot follow him here, as the notches are identical, allowing for slight inequalities in weathering. Besides, as remarked above, the allowing of only four notches to a length of 8 inches is forbidden by the rest of the inscription. In deciphering ogam inscriptions this principle must always be kept in mind, for it is obvious that the inscriber was bound to keep his spacing consistent if his work was to be readily legible. Many current readings of ogam inscriptions can be rejected immediately for their neglect of this constantly observed rule.

where the first two and the last words are proper names, and the translation thus "Avuo Anunao soothsayer of Dovenio."

Most of the sepulchral monuments, to which class this evidently belongs, contain nothing in the epitaphs but proper names. The formula here gives information as to what the deceased was—an interesting addition. It can be paralleled on two Irish stones and on three Scottish. *Alatto celi Battigni*, at Whitefield, Co. Kerry, is "(the grave of) A., vassal of Battignos," and at Drumloghan, Co. Waterford, an inscription ends *celi Aie Qvecea*, "the vassal of A."<sup>1</sup> The ogam from Lunnasting, Shetland, ends *hecevev Nehhtonn*, "the vassal of Nehtonn," where a different word for "vassal" appears, and that from Burrian, Orkney, *cevv Cerroces*, "the vassal of Ceroc."<sup>2</sup> Another instance where the name of the person commemorated is followed by a designation is found on the Bressay stone, where one of the legends ends *dattr Anna*, "foster-father of A."

In Strabo, writing in the beginning of the first century or a little earlier, we find mentioned as the three classes among the Celts enjoying special honours, the *bardoi*, the *ouateis* and the *druidai*—bards, prophets and druids. The words are still existent in modern Gaelic, *bàrd*, *fàidh*, *draoi*. In Scotland, owing to the want of early documents, we are unable to draw on native sources for information regarding the position and functions of these classes in pagan times, though there is some in Adamnan's *Life of Columba*. But there is sufficient material in Ireland, and there can be no doubt that the picture presented of the druids and prophets among the Gaels of Ireland would be essentially the same among the kindred Gaels of Caledonia.<sup>3</sup>

The *uates* belonged in a general way to the druid class, who may be described as the men of learning and teachers of the time, but who probably were as much valued for the various kinds of magical

<sup>1</sup> MacNeill, *The Irish Ogham Inscriptions*, 1909, p. 369.

<sup>2</sup> The spelling *hecevev* looks uncouth, but it is so only in the same way as foreigners speaking their own language are described as "jabbering" by those unfamiliar with it. The orthographical practice in late ogams in Scotland is usually to write all consonants double, whether historically double or not, except when beginning a word and except *m* and *s*. Aspiration is sometimes indicated by writing *h* before the aspirated consonant, not after it as in the later texts and to-day. We write the word here, therefore, in unaspirated form, *cevv*, which stands for older *qev* or *qev* according to the orthography employed (usually in the inscriptions the labialised *q* is written merely *q*, not *qr*). The word *qev*, "vassal, servant," occurs so spelt in an unpublished ogam from northern Scotland, of date before A.D. 600. The modern Gaelic, descending from *qev* by regular phonetic law, is *cé*, "companion, spouse," the same semantic development as is seen in *celi* above, which gives to-day *céile*, of the same meaning. It may be remarked in passing that this Old Gaelic inscription of Lunnasting was specially selected by Rhys to "challenge" the possibility of its being explained by "any Aryan language" (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xxxii, p. 325).

<sup>3</sup> See Joyce, *Social History of Ancient Ireland*, vol. i. pp. 218 ff., and O'Curry, *Manners and Customs of the Ancient Irish*, lectures ix. and x.

power and supernatural knowledge they were considered to possess. The special branch of this department to which the *uates* or prophet devoted himself was the art of divination or foretelling future events. It was an important rôle that he played in the life of the time, seeing that it was considered unsafe to undertake any business of importance without previous consultation of the prophet. They drew auguries from observation of the clouds, from astrology or observation of the stars, from some magical use of a wheel, called "wheel divination," from the voices of birds and other omens. A king or chief had his prophet attached to himself, on whose skill he relied for guidance in his enterprises. This is the meaning of the phrase "Dovenio's prophet" here. We can justly infer that Dovenio was at least some local chief, and also that it was probably he himself who caused this monument to be set up over his soothsayer.<sup>1</sup>

2. Besides the inscription there are, as mentioned above, other markings of an artificial character. On the north-east face, at the height of the last *n*, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the top of the stone, there are two small circles connected by two bars. Their diameter is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch and the extreme breadth of the whole is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. This figure can be at once identified as one of the so-called "Pictish symbols"—the double-disc connected by a cross-bar. Its form here corresponds exactly with several examples in the Fife caves, to be found figured in the *Early Christian Monuments*, pt. iii. pp. 371-72. Below this symbol there are traces of, at least, another, but only parts are properly visible, and I am unable to say more than that it seems to be one of the symbols involving circles or parts of circles.

The presence of these symbols on a stone that falls within the pagan period does not prove that they had a religious significance. On the contrary, their occurrence on objects and monuments both before the introduction of Christianity and after it rather shows that their meaning and purpose are not to be found in the circle of religious ideas—whether pagan or Christian—at all. This, however, belongs to a different question which cannot be entered on here. It must suffice to remark that the establishment of the occurrence of this

<sup>1</sup> As an illustration of the *uates* at work, I may extract the following passage from Joyce, *o.c.*, i. p. 229: "On the eve of a certain *Samain* (first of November), Dathi, King of Ireland (A.D. 405 to 428), who happened at the time to be at Cnoc-nan-druid (the druids' hill), where there was then a royal residence, ordered his druid to forecast for him the events of his reign from that till the next *Samain*. The druid went to the summit of the hill, where he remained all night, and, returning at sunrise, addressed the King somewhat as the witches addressed Macbeth: 'Art thou asleep, O King of Erin and Alban (Scotland)?' 'Why the addition to my title?' asked the King, 'I am not King of Alban.' And the druid answered that he had consulted the clouds of the men of Erin, by which he found out that the king would make a conquering expedition to Alban, Britain and Gaul. Which he accordingly did soon afterwards."

particular double-disc symbol on a stone commemorating a *uates* provides a fact that may prove helpful in the elucidation of these curious and obscure figures.

## II.

The language in which the inscription is written is commonly called Old Celtic, that is, Celtic earlier than about A.D. 600, known to us, so far as it is known, from inscriptions (mostly proper names) of the Continent and the British Isles and from the reconstructions of modern philology. Whether it is Old Celtic of the Goidelic (Gaelic) branch of the Celts or of the Brythonic (Welsh) will be referred to presently.

The orthography contains two points calling for remark. The character  $\pi\pi$  occurs twice, and both times its value is *b*. The usual value of this sign is *c* in the ogams generally, that is, the semi-vowel *u*, as in Latin *uallere*, English *dwell*. In intervocative position this sound afterwards disappears: thus ogam *Lugurcecca* = Old Irish *Lugach*. But it also occurs with the value of *b*, as is proved by such equations as ogam *Doratuai* = later *Dubthoch* (nom.), *Lugurce* = *Lugbe*, *Anarlamattias* = *Anblomaid* (nom.).<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, the semi-vowel *u* is here represented by the sign for the ordinary vowel *u* (three notches) in *Aruo* and *uate*. A possible explanation of this ambiguity in these characters,  $\pi\pi$  representing *u* and *b* and  $\pi$  *u* and *u*, may lie in the fact that ogam was founded on the Latin alphabet and that in the vulgar Latin at the time of its invention there was confusion in the orthography of the sounds in question. Thus in inscriptions we find *baliait* for *valeat*, *birit* for *virit*, *inbieta* for *inrieta*, etc., and conversely *iunente* for *iubente*, *uene* for *bene*, etc.

**Aruo.**—A noun of the *o*- declension, nominative singular, for older \**Aruos*: cp. the *o*- declension in Latin and Greek, *equus* from *equos*, *ἵππος*. *Aruo* would give in the later language *abh*, which we find in the early Irish *abhcán*, "dwarf, mannikin,"<sup>2</sup> and as a personal name in Irish saga.<sup>3</sup> In *abhcán* the diminutive suffix-group *-cán* is added to the stem.

**Anunao.**—Also a nominative of the *o*- declension and an epithet in opposition to *Aruo*. Such double names are common, the epithet being sometimes descriptive of some bodily feature or peculiarity, e.g. *Coirpre Catchenn*, "cat-head," *Feradach Lamfota*, "long arm," *Maine Muthramail*, M. "like his mother." If the reading is *Anune* the word is the nominative of an *i*- (*e*-) stem, or of a consonantal stem with final *s* fallen.

**Uate.**—A nominative of the *i*- (*e*-) declension, standing for older

<sup>1</sup> MacNeill, *o.c.*, p. 345.

<sup>2</sup> Meyer, *Contributions to Irish Lexicography*.

<sup>3</sup> Thurneysen, *Die irische Helden- und Königsage*, p. 490.

*uates*. The vowel *u* is long, and the Old and Modern Gaelic is by regular development, *fàith*, *fàidh*, "prophet." The Latin *uates*, of the same meaning, formerly considered to be cognate with the Celtic, is now held to be a loan-word taken over by the Latins from the Celtic.<sup>1</sup> The word has hitherto been known only through the Latin and Strabo's *οἰάτης*; hence the interest of seeing the original here direct from Celtic speech.

The *i*- stems of the Celtic grammars, it may be noticed, appear as *e*- stems in the Old Celtic of Scotland: in this word and in the next Dove-ni, in Vrobbaccenne-vv of the Aboyne ogam, and probably Ette of the Newton stone. In the Irish ogams the form is *i*.<sup>2</sup>

**Doveni.**—Genitive singular of a nominative *Dovenio(s)*. In ogam and also in the early inscriptions in Roman the genitive of *-ios* stems is written *i*, though phonetically it was *ī* (like English "ye"). This can be established from known words because of the law whereby Old Celtic *-ios*, *-ia*, etc. in final syllables was not dropped but remains in part in the modern language. Thus Old Celtic final *-i* disappears but not final *-ī* (written *-i*). Hence *Barrovadi* (genitive) of the Whithorn, Wigtownshire, stone, "long head,"<sup>3</sup> is seen to be *Barrovadii* because of modern *fada*, "long." Examples are plentiful in the Irish ogams.<sup>4</sup> *Doveni* is a case in point. From it comes *Dubnī*, in modern orthography *Duibhne*. The name was extant in the Gaelic of Aberdeenshire in the twelfth century, as *Dubnī*, man's name, in the Book of Deer shows. The eponymus of the clan Campbell is *Duibhne*, whence their name *Clann Duibhne*. The word also belongs to Ireland, e.g. *Dorínias* *Dorínia* of the ogams, genitive of a nominative *\*Doríniā*, a mythological personage and possibly a feminine noun.

The question which branch of Old Celtic this inscription belongs to, whether it is to be taken as Old Gaelic or Old Welsh, cannot be definitely settled from any of its four words; they might belong to either branch, as the *lǽngages* stood at that date.<sup>5</sup> The question, therefore, has to be considered in the light of the other early inscriptions of the country which happen to contain the words or forms by which a decision can be reached, and practically all of them do, in my opinion. I think they can be shown to be Goidelic both south and north of Forth and whether written in Roman or ogam. Auquholle, therefore,

<sup>1</sup> Walde, *Lateinisches etymologisches Wörterbuch*, s.v.

<sup>2</sup> MacNeill, *o.c.*, p. 352.

<sup>3</sup> *Early Christian Monuments*, iii. p. 497.

<sup>4</sup> MacNeill, *o.c.*, pp. 356-57.

<sup>5</sup> Though *uate* as to form might be either Goidelic or Brythonic, as a matter of fact it does not seem to exist in Welsh, if Rhys is right. He says, "Irish had . . . *fàith*, a prophet or poet, to which the Welsh has no etymological equivalent" (*Celtic Heathendom*, pp. 277-78, note).

as it contains nothing that is non-Goidelic, is to be classed as an old Gaelic inscription like the others which can be proved to be that.

### III.

For determining the date of this monument evidence is available from more than one direction. In the first place, the matter of the inscription assigns it to pre-Christian times. It would be unsafe to argue from the absence of the cross or other Christian symbols, though their absence is significant, but a monument to a soothsayer as soothsayer cannot have been executed after the Christianisation of the district. We are here in a pagan atmosphere among pagan practices. The class to which Avuo belonged were the chief opponents of the new faith. The allusions to the druids and prophets in the early hagiographic literature, such as the lives of Patrick and Columba, are clear on that and equally so on the proper Christian attitude towards them, viz. that their arts and influence were execrable and blasphemous and had to be met and countered wherever they showed face. No Christian Dovenio, we may conclude, could thus have signified his appreciation of his soothsayer. This fixes a lower limit for the date of the stone, but depending on what date can be assigned to the introduction of Christianity. I should put it as certainly prior to A.D. 600, possibly more than a hundred years earlier, reasoning from the language of the inscriptions on the Christian stones of Fordun (two inscriptions) and Aboyne, and from the considerable period demanded for the development of the native Christian art which these and similar monuments show.

The general appearance of the monument is primitive. The double-disc symbol is devoid of ornamentation or elaboration of any kind.

The linguistic evidence is in agreement, and is of itself sufficient to provide an approximate date. Original final syllables are all preserved; thus *Avu-o Anuna-o Uat-e*. There is general agreement that the loss of end syllables in Goidelic took place in the course of the sixth century.<sup>1</sup> In Scotland the earliest inscriptions both in Roman and ogam are prior to the working of this law, and the evidence points to its having operated here in the same century as in Ireland.<sup>2</sup> In our later ogams the change has taken place, but some of these can be put by other tests to a date not later than the middle of the sixth century.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pedersen, *Vergleich. Gramm. d. keltischen Sprachen*, i. p. 243.

<sup>2</sup> Original final syllables are still present in the following inscriptions: Yarrow, Kirkliston, Greenloaning, Gigha, Newton (Roman), Brandsbutt.

<sup>3</sup> The tendency has been to place the "late ogams" of Scotland much too late. The loss of final syllables in Goidelic was followed by the second great sound-law, viz. the syncope of the second syllable in words of three or more syllables; thus *Doveni* becomes *Dubni*. This



The upper limit of date is not so easy to fix. If we knew when the final *s* disappeared in nominatives like *Arvos*, *Anunaos*, *uates*, we should have a fixed point, but there is uncertainty about that.

In the Gaulish inscriptions it is normally present, though there are also examples where it is not.<sup>1</sup> From the form of the words of Auquhollie as they stand there is probably nothing to prevent the inscription being put even earlier than A.D. 300, but on the other hand it is to be remembered that the first alphabet which the Caledonians used was the Roman and that the ogam is subsequent to that. This inscription may therefore, I think, reasonably be referred to some time within the hundred or hundred and fifty years after about A.D. 300.

#### IV.

This stone and inscription have been treated in the foregoing as the work of the native Caledonians or Picts of the district, and naturally so. At the same time the view is to be met with in the literature of the subject that the mere fact that an inscription is in the ogam character suggests an Irish origin. Professor R. A. S. Macalister, for example, includes the Gigha, Argyll, ogam stone in his *Irish Epigraphy*, tacitly assuming that it is Irish, and ignoring the possibility that it may be older than the invasion of the Dalriadic Scots.<sup>2</sup> He also refers to the other Scottish ogams by the curious phrase that they were "cut under Pictish influence," which is as if one were to say that the Latin inscriptions of Italy were cut under Roman influence or those of Greece under Greek influence. The latent assumption in this way of regarding ogam is simply this, that this alphabet was Irish and that wherever it is found in epigraphy it is the work of Irishmen. In support of this view it can be pointed out that Wales, Cornwall, and Devon possess some twenty ogam-inscribed stones of about the same date as the early Irish examples, and bearing Goidelic legends. It is thus clear that this is not a case merely of the spread of an alphabet, but that Goidelic-speaking Celts must have been present

law has already been fully carried out in the earliest manuscript material of Ireland, round about A.D. 700, and also in Scotland, as the personal and place names in Adamnan's *Life of Columba* bear witness; compare also the place name *Peanfahel* on the Forth, which Bede writing soon after 700 gives as a Pictish word and which is for older \**Pigno-bal*-, the second syllable being thus syncopated. Now the "late" ogams, where they contain relevant words, are at the stage when, though the original end-syllables are lost, the second syllable is still unsyncopated. On this and on other linguistic grounds the dating of these, in the *Early Christian Monuments*, i. pp. 22-23 and other works, as late as the ninth century is quite at sea.

<sup>1</sup> Dottin, *La langue gauloise*, p. 66, and Pedersen, *Vergleich. Gramm. d. kelt. Sprachen*, i. p. 245.

<sup>2</sup> This is the true date, I believe, the late *maq* of Professor Macalister's reading not being on the stone. The legend consists of two words only.

in this Brythonic country. The same explanation is offered for the Goidelic ogams of Scotland, that they are done by Irish immigrants. But the two have nothing in common. In the third century and onwards Wales was invaded by Irish from the south of Ireland and great parts of it were conquered and held for a considerable period. It is to these invaders that the Goidelic inscriptions are owing, and, after their overthrow and expulsion by the Brythons, ogam and Goidelic alike disappear. In Scotland, on the other hand, the only invasion from Ireland that is known of is that of the Dalriadic Scots who established a footing in Argyll only in the beginning of the sixth century. Their territory relatively to the rest of Scotland was remote and of little account, and during the time that the later ogam inscriptions were being written in Scotland the part played by these Dalriads in Scottish history was extremely insignificant: they did little more than maintain their hold on their remote corner,<sup>1</sup> to say nothing of the fact that the Caledonians (or Picts) were writing ogam before the Dalriads set foot in Scotland at all. On general historical grounds, therefore, there is no more reason to doubt that the Celtic inscriptions of Scotland, in whatever alphabet, were done by the natives than there is to doubt that the "Duenos" inscription, for example, in Rome was done by Latins, and the onus of proof lies on those who doubt them.<sup>2</sup>

This being so, the use of the ogam alphabet by the Scottish Celts can only have originated in one of two ways. They either invented it themselves or they acquired a knowledge of it from their neighbours. Either alternative is equally possible. There is no reason why the invention should not have been theirs, and none why they should not have learnt it from others, as the history of the spread of alphabetic writing shows. But the question which alternative is correct has not really been considered hitherto. For that, various reasons might be suggested, but one is enough, that owing to the numerical preponderance of ogams in Ireland it has been taken for granted that this is the place of origin. Nevertheless it is doubtful if the argument from numbers is conclusive by itself. An invention does not necessarily reach its maximum of use in the place where it originated, as witness

<sup>1</sup> Quiggin rightly points out this in refusing to accept the mighty bouleversement of the original language of Scotland often ascribed to this small tribe. *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 1910, vol. v. p. 622, and W. F. Skene before in *Celtic Scotland*.

<sup>2</sup> Features in which the Auquhollie legend differs from Irish, though it is equally Goidelic, may be mentioned: (1) The man's name is in the nominative case. Very rare in Ireland; indeed there seems to be no certain example. The nominative case is invariable in Scotland. (2) Dove-ni as against Irish Dovi-nia. (3) The semi-vowel preserved in *Avuo*. No instance, I think, in Irish. The Greenloaning stone also has it. (4) *O*-stems are in *-o*, in Irish in *-a* *Avuo*, *Anunao*. So also in all Scottish inscriptions from Barrovadi of Whithorn to Nehhtonn of Lunnasting, from \*Nikt-o-gni.

the statistics of motor cars to-day; there may be factors at work upsetting this. The fashion of inscribing epitaphs on stones in the south of Ireland more than elsewhere may be due to causes of which we are ignorant to-day. It does not necessarily follow that ogam was more current there or had been invented there, for it has to be remembered that it was not confined to lapidary work (though that only has survived) but was used for all purposes that are served by any alphabet.

The starting point in any investigation of its history is the fact that ogam is founded on the Latin alphabet.<sup>1</sup> Quiggin says, "It was probably invented by some person from the south of Ireland who received his knowledge of the Roman letters from traders from the mouth of the Loire."<sup>2</sup> Rhys's opinion is that "the most probable theory is that which regards it as invented during the Roman occupation of Britain, by a Goidelic grammarian who had seen the Brythons of the Roman province making use of Latin letters."<sup>3</sup> The vagueness of these hypotheses is sufficiently obvious, and the reason is that no proof can be offered that the Irish had any knowledge of the Roman alphabet at the time that ogam was invented. It is, of course, possible to say that the ogam alphabet itself proves this knowledge, but this is a precarious argument if it can be shown that there were other Goidelic Celts (for ogam is a Goidelic contrivance), not Irish, who *did* know the Roman alphabet and used it at the time required and *did* afterwards use ogam. The possibility that ogam is of Scottish origin has to be taken into account, and the following facts can be offered as presenting a case for examination.

1. From the end of the first century onwards the Celts of Scotland north of Forth were in close touch with the Romans in a way that the Irish were not, and had good opportunity of becoming acquainted with their alphabet. That they did is attested by several inscriptions, one at Newton, Aberdeenshire,<sup>4</sup> mostly in Roman cursives, and another in Roman capitals from Greenloaning, Perthshire. A third, recently discovered but not yet published, is of very early date, and is non-sepulchral. These three are in Goidelic vernacular and contain no Latin. A small stone from a Celtic fort at Burghead, Morayshire, contains Roman capitals of the early centuries A.D.; it is apparently some magic formula, of which only the initial letters are given.

2. The existence of ogam in Scotland as early as in Ireland is attested by the Auquhollie and Gigha stones.

<sup>1</sup> "Dies Alphabet, das gewiss nichts als eine Umbildung des lateinischen Alphabets, . . ." (Pedersen, *o.c.*, i. p. 4). "The Ogham alphabet is based on the Latin alphabet" (MacNeill, *o.c.*, p. 334).

<sup>2</sup> *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 1910, v. p. 623.

<sup>3</sup> *Chambers's Encyclopædia*, 1891, vii. p. 583.

<sup>4</sup> Diack, *The Newton Stone*, 1922.

3. As MacNeill points out, "the orthographical system of ogam and the orthographical system of early manuscript Irish are as distinct and separate as if they belonged to two unrelated languages." In particular the consonants *c*, *t*, *p*, and *g*, *d*, *b* are differently treated in the two. As regards these, the orthography of Old Irish is based on the Brythonic pronunciation of Latin which the Irish received from the Brythonic missionaries. There is no trace of this in the ogam orthography.<sup>1</sup> Now the Caledonian Gael was quite removed from British influence before about 400, when British missionaries began to penetrate the country. He learnt the alphabet direct from Roman sources, or, what is perhaps more probable, from the more or less Romanised fellow-Celts of southern Scotland who regained their independence on the withdrawal of the Romans south of the Cheviots and the Solway early in the reign of Commodus.<sup>2</sup> The place-names of this district, and the Yarrow and Whithorn inscriptions, prove that these Celts were Goidels like himself.

4. The forms of the ogam letters are so utterly unlike those of the Roman alphabet that the question naturally presents itself, what could have suggested such a curious and cumbrous device? Some archaeological matter can be pointed to which points to an answer. The essential features of the alphabet are a centre or stem line, at right angles to which are groups of scores, some of which intersect the stem line. Now there can be seen in the Fife caves, among other "scribings" whose significance is unknown, figures bearing an essential resemblance to the ogam alphabetic device. Others occur in a cave in Arran, I understand. A small disc from a kitchen-midden in Caithness, now in the National Museum, which is probably an amulet, contains a figure closely resembling ogam; and I have lately seen a stone in the parish of Rayne, Aberdeenshire, inscribed with similar sculpturings.<sup>3</sup> This pre-alphabetic "ogam," as we may call it, can be conjectured to have some symbolical value. It probably bore the name of ogam and was connected with the worship of *Ogma*, the god of language and eloquence. At all events, the occurrence of these figures in Scotland shows that, if alphabetic ogam was invented there, it had not to be constructed out of the vague. We can see whence the inventor drew the suggestion. We can see also why the ogam alphabet should have been preferred to the Roman: it doubtless took over the old native religious associations connected with the earlier symbolism.

<sup>1</sup> MacNeill, *o.c.*, pp. 336-39, and *cp.* Thurneysen, *Handbuch des Altirischen*, § 906.

<sup>2</sup> Macdonald, *The Roman Wall in Scotland*, p. 407.

<sup>3</sup> Owing to its position in a dyke, only one face of this large stone was visible when I saw it, but the markings are evidently continued on another or others. Arrangements will be made to have it taken out and properly examined.

## VI.

## FURTHER DISCOVERIES ON THE LINE OF THE ANTONINE WALL.

By GEORGE MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., LL.D., D.LITT., F.S.A.ScOT.

In February 1915 I gave the Society an account of the results of a series of investigations which, with the aid of a Research Grant from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, I had been carrying on along the line of the Antonine Wall in odd moments of leisure.<sup>1</sup> The work I had mapped out for myself was then still in progress, and I was hopeful that within a comparatively brief period I should be able to complete it. Ten years have elapsed, but it is not yet finished. Much to my regret, there seems little prospect of its being resumed in the immediate future. It may therefore be well that, so long as my recollection remains sufficiently fresh to give form and substance to the material which my rough notes provide, I should endeavour to unravel the tangled skein, and combine into an intelligible whole the main items of fresh information that have been acquired in the interval.

It is a pleasure to make cordial acknowledgment of the generous assistance I have received. The renewed help of the Carnegie Trust was, of course, indispensable. And the same is true of the facilities so readily granted me by proprietors like Mr H. M. Cadell of Grange, the late Mr Forbes of Callendar and his son Mr Charles Forbes, as well as by tenant-farmers and occupiers everywhere. The list of those to whom I am in various ways indebted includes the names of Mr A. O. Curle, Mr John M'Intosh of the Gartshore Estate, Mr John Mathieson, formerly of the Ordnance Survey, Mr T. Douglas Wallace, and Mr James W. Young, now of Bishop Burton Estates, Yorkshire. Finally, I would mention *honoris et pietatis causa* three who are no longer alive to receive the special thanks that would have been their due—the Rev. Robert Gardner of Bo'ness and Mr James Smith of Mumrills, both cut off in their prime, and the veteran Mr Mungo Buchanan of Falkirk, who survived long enough to be gratified by the news that the end of the Wall had been found, although the infirmities of old age prevented him from seeing it with his own eyes.

## I. FROM INVERAVON TO BRIDGENESS. (Plates I. and II.)

The long delay that has taken place has been due not to one but to several causes. The continuance of the War made it at first

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, xlix. pp. 93 ff.

difficult and then impossible to obtain the necessary labour. After the Armistice my own duties increased so much in complexity that it became less and less easy to snatch an occasional afternoon of freedom. Above all, however, the problem that most urgently called for solution—a determination of the exact line which the Wall had followed between its crossing of the River Avon and the sea—proved far more difficult than might have been anticipated. Again and again the trail was lost, and sometimes it was not recovered until much time had been spent in the fruitless pursuit of clues that turned out to be misleading. That the track has at last been laid down on the Ordnance Map with approximate correctness is due in no small measure to the knowledge of soils possessed by the experienced workman who did the digging under my direction, Mr William Gibson, drainer, Laurieston. Although we had to feel our way now in one direction, now in another, and had frequently to retrace our steps, it will be convenient to make the description of our progress continuous. Further, in the account I am going to give, I propose to begin at the Avon and advance eastwards. No doubt the builders of the Wall followed the opposite course, but for our immediate purpose it will be less confusing to adopt the traditional convention.

In the paper to which I have already referred I described the rapid descent of the great Ditch from Polmonthill to the west bank of the Avon, indicating that its appearance there still justifies the language used of it long ago by Dr John Buchanan, when he spoke of it as “an immense slice cut out of the breast of the *brae*, with well-preserved edges.” On the opposite side of the river, and for a considerable distance beyond, no trace of it is now visible. The plough has been busy in these fields for generations, and, moreover, the level ground near the bank must often have been inundated by the overflow of the stream. Indeed, there is no certainty that in Roman times the course of the Avon at this particular point was identical with that which it follows to-day—a circumstance which makes it peculiarly hazardous to offer any conjecture as to the precise position of the *castellum* which we may presume to have been located somewhere in the immediate neighbourhood. Nevertheless, on the facts as at present known, I am disposed to suggest that the Roman fort of Inveravon stood somewhere on the slope that climbs up to the old Tower, rather than on the plateau that lies farther to the east.

My reason for this conclusion is twofold. In the first place, in trenching for the Ditch near the river, and again at the top of the field, we laid bare, at a depth of about 2 feet below the present surface, a number of stones that had clearly been placed, where they

still lie, by human hands. The tenant, Mr Taylor, had previously been puzzled to find them exposed when a drain was being cut, and it was in consequence of the information he supplied that we opened them up again, hoping they would prove to be the foundation of the Wall.<sup>1</sup> In this expectation we were disappointed. The hypothesis was ruled out by the manner in which they were arranged. Yet no alternative explanation occurred either to Mr Curle (who paid a special visit to Inveravon to examine them) or to myself. The most that can be said of them is that they bear witness to occupation of some sort. Their date, like their purpose, remains problematical, although it is perhaps not without significance that I picked up among them a fragment of pottery that had almost certainly belonged to a second-century red *mortarium*. Such a fragment would, indeed, be a slender basis on which to rear so imposing a structure as a Roman *castellum*. But the second of the two considerations of which I spoke must also be taken account of. As I shall show presently, the points at which Wall and Ditch left the east bank of the Avon were not exactly opposite those at which they touched it on the west; they were about 140 feet lower down the stream. There is nothing in the configuration of the ground which would have prevented exact correspondence. On the other hand, the thrust northwards becomes readily intelligible if we suppose that it was prompted by a desire to leave room for a small fort in the rear of the Wall. And a small fort was all that was needed here, because (as we shall see by and by) Mumrills, its immediate neighbour on the west, was in all probability much larger and more strongly garrisoned than any of the other *castella* on the isthmus. Inveravon, then, may not have been even as large as Rough Castle.

To quit speculation and turn to the actual results of digging, our survey can most conveniently start from a point on the right bank of the mill-lade (shown on Plate I.), about 20 yards below the sluice. This would represent the middle of the great Ditch. Exploratory trenches proved that from here the *limes* had run straight towards the north-east for rather more than 100 yards, when it took a decided swing towards the right. The discovery of its exact course was due, in the first instance, to a hint given me by the tenant, who told me of a line where the corn was wont to grow taller in dry summers. The hatched markings which appear at the top of the field on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1898 are thus inaccurate. Still more so, as I pointed out in 1911, are the "Remains of the Wall of Antoninus Pius," which are there shown passing along the front of the wooded plateau

<sup>1</sup> It seems not improbable that it was some part of this stonework which was noted in 1870 (*Proceedings*, ix. p. 48).

that overlooks the Carse. As a matter of fact, the little cottage by the roadside is built on the north bank of the Roman Ditch. Cracks and rents in the west gable, especially towards its southern end, tell their own tale quite plainly.

Attempts to ascertain what happened on the farther side of the road were unsuccessful. The ground on and about the wooded knoll where the Tower stands has been much terraced and altered. This, combined with the work of the trees, rendered our efforts fruitless. But there can have been little or no considerable deviation until 40 or 50 yards from the front of the farm-house of Inveravon. In my *Roman Wall in Scotland*<sup>1</sup> I suggested that the line had passed through the farm-buildings and had then "traversed the fields beyond them, making across the high ground straight for the bridge over the North British Railway." I went on to indicate that "when the opportunity for excavation does arise, the Ditch might be looked for, in the first instance, 30 or 40 yards to the left of the road that runs past Inveravon on the south." So far as the farm-buildings are concerned, I was right. For the rest, excavation has shown that I was wrong. Very marked subsidences in the side wall of the dwelling-house and again in the steading enabled us to follow the Ditch as it once more made a pronounced swing towards the right, apparently in order to reach the high ground as rapidly as possible. The decided "elbow" which results reflects to a certain extent the configuration of the steep bank of the river. The ploughman's cottage probably lies astride of the site of the Wall. Excavation proved that the Ditch had crossed the hedge into the road a little way to the east of it, and that for the next 500 yards or so it had run fairly straight, partly under the modern road but often very largely in the fields to the south of it. In one of our cuttings we found, 20 feet in the rear, stones that may have been the remnants of the foundation of the Wall, torn up apparently as recently as 1842.<sup>2</sup>

Shortly after reaching the top of the hill and just before beginning the actual descent into the little valley which affords a passage for the railway, the road takes a turn to the right, only to resume its former course presently. About the same point the *limes* must also have turned slightly in the same direction. As one goes down the hill towards the White Bridge, the hollow of the Ditch is distinctly discernible on the slope of the opposite bank. Although the hatched markings on the Survey Map of 1898 are roughly accurate, they do not quite correspond to the facts. They suggest, for instance, that in Field No. 650 the Ditch ran to the south of the hedge. This is not so. About 100 yards

<sup>1</sup> Pp. 142 f.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*



beyond the Bridge its line passes underneath the line of the road. Thereafter, for more than half a mile eastwards, road and Ditch keep such close company that we may safely postulate a real connection between them: the course of the later construction has originally been determined by that of the earlier. Trenching made it clear that they seldom, if ever, coincided exactly. But there was no doubt as to their general agreement. Further proof was forthcoming in the shape of numerous traces of the foundation of the Wall, which invariably occurred in the fields on the south side of the hedge. Sometimes its line was plainly indicated by a band of clay, glistening white amid the freshly turned-up soil of a ploughed expanse. Sometimes stray kerbstones had been brought to the surface and tossed on one side by the ploughman, isolated survivors of the uprooting which took place in 1861 and earlier.

In reproducing Mr A. S. R. Learmonth's account of this uprooting,<sup>1</sup> I ventured to question his impression that it was the Roman road which he had encountered. I said it was much more likely to have been the foundation of the Roman Wall. My diagnosis has been satisfactorily confirmed. Writing some fifty years after the event, Mr Learmonth stated that the "causeway" which he removed was in the Easter Wellacres field—the fourth field on the right-hand side after crossing the railway—and that it was "about 20 or 30 yards west of that part of the road leading to Upper Kinniel known as 'The Stey Step,' and *about the same distance to the south of the road to Nether Kinniel.*" I have italicised the significant words. Now, in following the indications I have described above, we struck a fairly well-preserved section of the stone base of the Wall in the narrow strip of untilled ground that separates the Easter Wellacres field (No. 643) from "The Stey Step." Where the section was exposed on the inner side of the hedge, the south kerb and the greater part of the centre were still *in situ*, the former being 54 feet south of the road to Nether Kinniel. On the outer side the north kerb was intact, enabling us to fix the original breadth of the whole at 16 feet. There was no sign of lamination in the earth that rested upon it. Clay, however, was present in abundance. The coincidence between the 54 feet and Mr Learmonth's "20 or 30 yards" is remarkable, particularly if it be borne in mind that, by the time the hedge is reached, the Wall has already begun to assume the northerly trend that characterises the next 300 yards of its course.

Crossing "The Stey Step," we noted, projecting from the bank, some of the stones that had belonged to the base of the Wall. After it

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, p. 144.

enters the Summerhouse Park (Field No. 674), the line heads almost straight for the Old Quarry (see Plate I.). In 1911, accepting a hint conveyed to me by Mr Learmonth, I adopted the view that this was at first its general direction. Investigation with the spade in 1915 proved that so far I was justified. But it also proved that for some distance beyond I had gone completely astray. My account of the next three-quarters of a mile requires to be entirely rewritten. After a weary search, we were driven to the conclusion that Mr Learmonth was wrong in his suggestion as to the further course of the Ditch. There was no such doubling back southwards, as he had supposed. We therefore returned to the hollow in which we had verified its presence, and were then able, by trenching at short intervals, to carry the line to the edge of the steep bank that overhangs the road. There it seemed to stop abruptly. The road is called the Cowbank Road, and I was at once reminded of what Maitland says<sup>1</sup> as to the beginning—or, as Gordon and Horsley would have put it—the end of “Graham’s Dike.”

“This Wall began on the southern coast of the frith of Forth, about a mile to the westward of the town of Borrowstouness, at the brow of a steep hill called the Cowbank, near the pavilion or summer-house at the north-western corner of Kinniel-park, a little to the eastward of the village of Kinniel; as is manifest by the eastern end of the ditch’s being plainly to be seen at the precipice of the Cowbank, adjoining to the road leading to the town of Borrowstouness.”

Maitland’s description of what he saw is obviously accurate. But his idea that the Ditch began—or ended—here was quite erroneous, as was conclusively demonstrated by our investigations of 1915. For the next couple of hundred yards it must have run along the face of the Cowbank, with the Wall on the high ground immediately above it. Indeed, now that we know where to look for it, its track seems at some points plainly discernible. Nevertheless, at first we should have been altogether nonplussed, had we not laid hold of a definitely ascertained point much farther east and then worked back westwards to establish the line. This we were able to do in the most satisfactory fashion by uncovering the remnants of the stone foundation at two points in the wood to the north of the large reservoir (No. 676). About 65 feet east of the gate into the Summerhouse Park we found the south kerb 2 feet below the present surface. The centre was also well preserved, but the north kerb had been torn away, thus reducing the total width to 12 feet 6 inches. Clay was much in evidence, rising at one place in a solid mass for 7 inches. At a distance of 23 feet farther

<sup>1</sup> *History of Scotland*, i. p. 171.

east we exposed a second section consisting of 15 feet of the north kerb with a considerable portion of the centre. In the first case there was an interval of about 40 feet between the northern edge of the stone foundation and the modern wall that runs along the top of the bank.

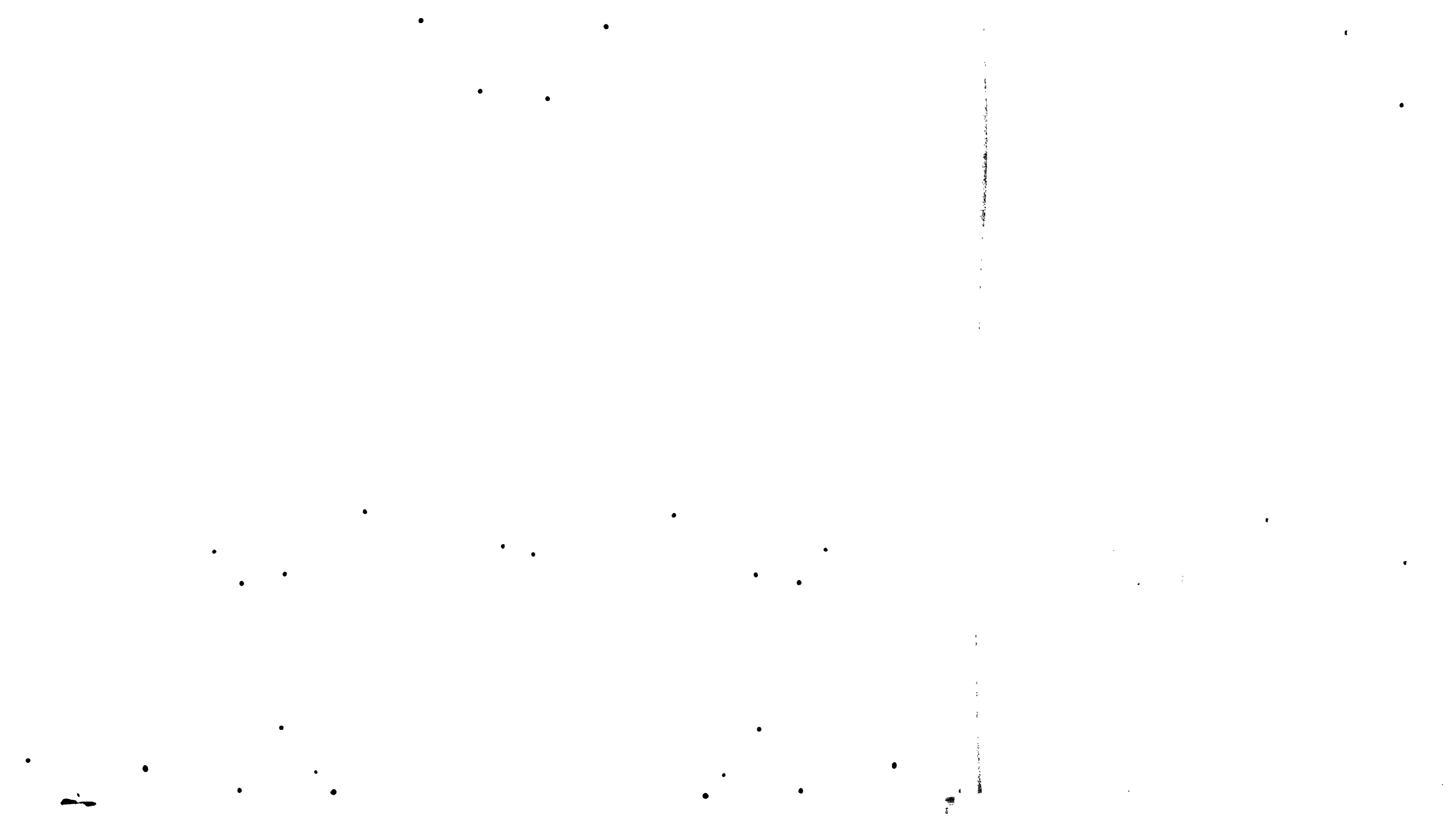
After quitting the wood above the larger reservoir the course of Wall and Ditch runs almost perfectly straight for well over two miles. It traverses the small reservoir (No. 698) about midway between its northern and southern ends, and continues through the Meadows, as the large park is called, in the direction of Kinneil House. The park contains several conspicuous hollows, which were regarded by the Ordnance Surveyors of 1898 as the remains of the Roman Ditch. In 1911 I expressed the opinion that the identification was erroneous. That opinion must now be retracted, or at any rate very seriously qualified. There is no doubt that the hollow to the west does actually represent the Ditch. Farther east it is different. The surface there has been considerably altered since Roman times, apparently by the construction of a "gallop" for horses, with the result that what now looks like the Ditch is at various points something much more modern. The line as I have laid it down was arrived at by trenching at short intervals from end to end of the Meadows, and it may be taken as approximately accurate. Not far from the eastern extremity we found a small remnant of the stone base of the Wall about 22 inches beneath the present surface. It was about 12 feet broad, with a neat kerb on the south side, the kerb on the north having been entirely removed. As usual, there was a good deal of whitish clay above it. This fragment was of special interest, because (so far as I was able to determine) it is the most easterly that still survives.

Crossing the little streamlet at the east end of the Meadows, the line passes close to Kinneil House, so close that the outer wall of the south wing of the building must run almost along what was once the north lip of the Ditch. Proof that this was actually the course which the Ditch followed is furnished by the condition of the north wall of the garden towards its eastern end.<sup>1</sup> Despite the fact that on its outer or northern face it is shored up by stone buttresses, the wall exhibits marked signs of collapse.<sup>1</sup> Cracks in the front wall of the building to the east tell the same story. The subsidences are, of course, due to the fact that the heavy masonry rests on the "made up" soil with which the great hollow of the Ditch is now filled. Field No. 402 is

<sup>1</sup> When I first noted these, in 1915, they were completely concealed from ordinary view by a clump of rhododendrons. Since the grounds of Kinneil House passed under the control of Bo'ness Town Council, the shrubs have been cleared away, leaving the wall and buttresses uncovered.

This is a detailed historical map of the Kinnell area, showing the River Avon, the Carse of Kinnell, and the Kinnell Wood. The map includes various landmarks such as the Avon Bridge, North Hamings, Upper Hamings, White Bridge, and the Kinnell Wood. It also shows the River Bone and the River Kinnell, along with the Kinnell Wood and the Kinnell Wood. The map is oriented with North at the top and includes a scale bar at the bottom.

THE ROMAN WALL FROM INVERAVON TO KINNEIL.



entered very near its north-western corner. At this point the middle of the Ditch is about 30 feet south of the main avenue leading to the mansion-house: the handwriting on the boundary wall is plain to see. By the time the little glen through which the Gil Burn flows is reached, the distance has increased to 70 or 80 feet. From the margin of the field a "sheugh" runs down the bank towards the stream. This appears to represent the most easterly remnant of the Roman Ditch that is still traceable upon the surface.

Here it may be of interest to turn back for a moment, and glance at the nature and extent of the error involved in my former suggestion as to the course which the *lines* had followed in and about the policies of Kinneil House. At the point where the deviation from the true line has turned out to be greatest, the difference amounts to as much as 200 yards. My earlier view, it will be remembered, was based partly on a personal recollection of Mr Learmonth's, partly on statements made by Sir Robert Sibbald and the Anonymous Traveller of 1697.<sup>1</sup> Mr Learmonth, however, was assuming (as I did) that, when Sibbald wrote that the Wall passed through "Kinieil Wood," he was speaking of the wood which is now known by that name and which lies on the south of the Meadows, whereas there seems to be no reason why the words should not cover also the belt of trees on the north, within which the remains of the stone foundation were actually laid bare in 1915. The statement of the Anonymous Traveller to the effect that the Roman Wall was "within a bowshoott" to the south of Kinneil House is perhaps less easy to account for. But, however the discrepancy is to be explained, it cannot be regarded as in any way weakening the new evidence. The spade, as Professor Haverfield used to say, is mightier than the pen.

It should be added that the error brought with it a compensating advantage. Pursuit of the false scent led to the discovery of what may fairly be assumed to have been traces of the Military Way. The most considerable of these was a section of kerbing, about 10 feet long, which we uncovered, inside the wood, 16 feet or 17 feet south of the gate near the south-east corner of the Summerhouse Park. The others were more fragmentary, and consisted of accumulations of stones, which were noted at intervals throughout the wood, along a line running eastwards, and which were specially conspicuous wherever there was a small watercourse. The same phenomenon was very observable, much nearer the Wall itself, on both sides of the streamlet that trickles past Kinneil House on the west. If these indications are to be relied upon, then the Military Way, in its journey through the wood, must have

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, pp. 145 ff.

kept at an abnormally long distance to the south of Ditch and Wall. And that is precisely what might be expected from the character of the terrain. In Roman times the intervening ground, now represented by the Meadows, was in all probability full of marshy hollows; even to-day it contains two reservoirs and a curling-pond. The engineers of a road on which there was to be continuous and important traffic would have good reason to avoid it.

The effect of such a divergence would be to give the whole *lines* at this point the appearance of a tightly-strung bow, the place of the string being occupied by Wall and Ditch and that of the bow itself by the Military Way. As already indicated, the latter would seem almost to have resumed its normal distance by the time it crossed the streamlet close to Kinneil House. The course which it followed farther east is very possibly marked by a line of scattered stones which can still be seen running down the west bank of the Gil Burn. The line is too far to the south of the "sheugh," of which I have spoken, to represent the remains of the base of the Wall. And the possibility first suggested is supported by evidence obtained in the field immediately adjoining. Trenches dug opposite the end of the line, 15 feet and 30 feet out from the fence, revealed, at depths of 1 foot and 2 feet respectively, stones which, in the second case at least, had been carefully laid and covered with packed gravel. They had been too much disturbed to admit of any estimate being formed of the width over which they had originally extended. A peculiar feature was the appearance in the second trench of a good deal of decayed vegetable matter: at one point a layer of it rested directly on the stones.

Immediately beyond the Gil Burn stands the old dower-house of Kinneil, now known as The Dean. It has been built right astride of the line of Wall and Ditch. Here or hereabouts must be the site of the Roman *castellum* which considerations of distance would lead us to look for at or near this point. But the building of the house and the making of the garden have involved so much levelling and cutting away of the ground that it would be idle to search for indications of it now in this particular spot. Some might possibly be found by careful digging in the field to the east. Certainly it would be difficult to hit upon a situation more suitable than the slope enclosed within the angle which the Gil Burn forms at The Dean. And it is perhaps worth pointing out that on this *lines* almost all of the forts which lay near streams or rivers (as many of them did) were on the east (or south) bank. Obvious instances are Rough Castle, Castlecary, Cadder, Balmuldy, and Duntocher. No doubt in some cases, as at Rough Castle and Duntocher, the ground on that side was peculiarly well adapted for the purpose.

just as it was at the Gil Burn. But there was another reason. Agricola, by whom the sites seem to have been originally selected, in all probability advanced from Forth to Clyde, and it would be only natural that he should plant his *castella* on the hither side of the streams he had to cross.

In 1911, on the strength of evidence which need not be recapitulated here, I suggested that, beyond The Dean, Rampart and Ditch must "have run not very far from the modern high road."<sup>1</sup> This view was fully confirmed by the investigations of 1915 and following years. We found the Ditch just before it passed out of The Dean garden, when its direction showed that the modern road to Bo'ness was at first laid over its northern half. In point of fact, for nearly two miles the coincidence is more or less complete. This we were able to establish partly by positive and partly by negative evidence. Near The Dean, and again about 950 yards farther east, trenching in the fields immediately to the south revealed forced soil close to the boundary wall, sometimes to a depth of fully 4 feet. On the other hand, the great cutting made for the quarry, midway between, betrays no trace of an earlier disturbance of the ground. Presumably, therefore, the highway must provide an almost complete covering. It is, of course, proverbially difficult to prove a negative, but the results of a series of exhaustive searches seem to be conclusive. Wherever a divergence from the direct line of the road appeared possible, holes were dug at intervals of a few feet for distances of as much as 100 yards north or south. In none of these was any sign of the Ditch discernible. The obvious inference may, I think, be quite safely accepted.

We are thus brought to the villa called "Graham's Dyke," the name of which—derived as it is from a far older group of cottages that have now disappeared—we are justified in regarding as a trustworthy landmark. When the name was originally bestowed on the cottages, some remains of the Ditch were in all likelihood still visible close at hand. It is hardly necessary to repeat that the markings entered in this neighbourhood on the Survey Map<sup>2</sup> of 1898 are misleading; the bank which they indicate is natural, and has had nothing to do with the Wall.<sup>2</sup> But it was no easy matter to determine what the true course of the *limes* beyond Graham's Dyke Villa had been. Ultimately by dint of much trenching, carried as far east as the farm of Drum and even beyond it, we satisfied ourselves that Horsley must have been speaking of what he actually saw when he wrote that "the remains near the Grange house, make a turn, and quit the most advantageous ground for a rampart." This can only mean that they swerve towards the

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, p. 149.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 150.



north, descending the hill in the direction of the sea. The reference is, as I have explained elsewhere,<sup>1</sup> to the original House of Grange, built in 1564 and demolished about 1905.

The fields to the north and to the south of Graham's Dyke Villa were methodically searched, but always without result. In the end we were driven to the conclusion that the line of the Ditch must be represented by the narrow road called Graham's Dyke Lane, which leaves the main highway almost opposite the Villa and follows a more northerly direction, thus quitting at once "the most advantageous ground for a rampart." We did not, of course, attempt to open up the Lane itself. But a hole dug on its southern margin, close to the hedge, yielded forced soil to a depth of 18 inches lower than the level at which the till could be reached, only 2 feet or 3 feet away, in the immediately adjoining field. This suggested a slope representing the lip of the Ditch, and, in view of the comparative narrowness of the Lane, we were encouraged to hope that we should find more decisive evidence in the allotments on its northern side. Disappointment awaited us, for confusion had been introduced here by the deposit of masses of quarry rubbish. Further down the hill, however, we obtained the desired confirmation. Trenching the garden of the most easterly house in Grange Terrace, at a point not very far from the northern edge of the Lane, we encountered a considerable depth of "free" soil, intermingled with the usual tell-tale fragments of decayed vegetable matter.

Just beyond the point in question Graham's Dyke Lane terminates, running out into a road which descends the slope more directly from the south. On the other side of this road is a large new school with its playground. If the hypothesis on which we had been proceeding was correct, it was clear that the school must be built across the line of the Ditch. Endeavours to find it in the playground outside were fruitless, but the conditions there are far from favourable. On the other hand, a little more towards the east is a field (No. 272) whose surface has since Roman times been ruffled only by the plough. A series of holes was dug along its western edge. In most of them yellow clay was reached after the first few spadefuls of earth had been thrown up, and I began to fear that we had once more gone seriously astray. The apprehension proved groundless. Exactly at what turned out, when laid down upon the map, to be the right spot, we found ourselves able

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, p. 151. I am, however, doubtful whether I was justified in there citing Stuart in support of a downward turn, unless indeed his "south-east" be a misprint for "north-east." If there is no misprint, the south-easterly turn which he has in view is the turn which the Ditch *would* have taken here or hereabouts if he had been right in locating the terminal fort at Carriden House, as he seems to have done.

**BORROWSTOUNNESS**

WEST PIER  
EAST PIER  
HARBOUR

CORNHILL

FURNACE ROWS

CEMETERY

Church

Manse

Dranfield Cottage

Castle Loan Cottages

TIMBER BASIN

GRANGEPANS

BRIDGENESS PIER

Bridge Ness HARBOUR

THE ROMAN WALL FROM KINNEIL TO BRIDGENESS.



to go a long way down into "free" soil intermingled with particles of decayed vegetable matter. At a depth of 5 feet 9 inches we were still apparently some distance from the bottom. Further search revealed the sloping edges of the Ditch, and its general direction was verified by a cut made farther eastwards. That was the last point at which we opened it up. There could no longer be any doubt that the great distance-slab discovered at Bridgeness in 1868 had really marked the end of the *limes*.

Given more leisure and better weather conditions, we might have been able to fix the position of the terminal fort as definitely as had been done eight years before at Old Kilpatrick.<sup>1</sup> As it was, we had to content ourselves with surmise. Some part of it at least must, I think, have lain within the limits of what is now Field No. 272. In estimating the probabilities, we have got to bear in mind the modification that the coast-line here has undergone since Roman times. Through the deposit of sand and silt the land has gained considerably at the expense of the sea—a process which has recently been sedulously encouraged by artificial means. Mr H. M. Cadell, whose expert knowledge and intimate acquaintance with the locality enable him to speak with authority on the subject, was good enough to put on the map for me a rough outline of the beach as the Romans probably knew it. This shows a promontory projecting into the Firth with bays sweeping back behind it on the east and on the west. The bay on the west penetrates to within less than 100 yards of the northern boundary of Field No. 272. Incidentally the full significance of the original site of the distance-slab becomes apparent. It must be remembered that it was not found at the spot where the tablet recording its discovery now stands, but immediately in front of the northern face of the rocky knoll on which Bridgeness Tower has been built. Clearly it was set up just where it would be certain to catch the eye of all who approached the eastern end of the Wall by sea.

## II. THE STRUCTURE OF THE VALLUM.

Prior to the publication of the paper which I read to the Society in 1915, it had been taken for granted that the structure of the Vallum had been uniform from the one side of the isthmus to the other. The investigations of the Glasgow Archæological Society proved, beyond possibility of question, that in the west it had been built of sods which rested on a stone foundation, and it was only natural to assume that the same had been the case in the east. The observations made during

<sup>1</sup> See *Proceedings*, xlix, p. 105.

my survey of the stretch between Falkirk and Inveravon led me to a different conclusion. The stone foundation had indeed been continuous. But there was no trace of the lamination—the dark bands of decayed grass and heather—so characteristic of “caespiticious” ramparts. Instead, clay was much in evidence, and I suggested the possibility, “that, after the stone foundation was laid, two mounds of clay had been piled up on either edge of it and used to support a wholly earthen rampart.”<sup>1</sup> It will not have escaped notice that my experience between Inveravon and Bridgeness was similar. Clay was noted over and over again, the black lines nowhere. Sometimes the clay had even survived the complete destruction of the stone foundation. But there was confirmation still more striking, which deserves to be put on record.

In the account of certain discoveries made at Mumrills, which was communicated to the Society in 1915,<sup>2</sup> an attempt was made to reconstruct the outline of the fort, the result giving an enclosure of approximately  $4\frac{3}{4}$  acres—an area considerably exceeding the average of the other known forts on the Wall. Almost exactly a year later it was proved that this was an underestimate. I had assumed that the course of the ditches on the west was indicated by the deep cutting through which the cross-road known as the Sandy Loan passes. Digging had failed to reveal any definite remains of a rampart to the east of the cutting, but I concluded that it had been ploughed up and that its former whereabouts was betrayed by a line of stones about 15 feet broad, which had the appearance of being a disturbed foundation. In February 1916, however, the late Mr James Smith, to whose keenness and initiative we owed most of the information that we had previously gleaned, wrote to me that he thought he had found the west rampart of the fort in the field beyond the Sandy Loan, and that he would like me to come out and verify his impression. It was clear at a glance that he was right. There was no mistaking the meaning of the carefully laid stone base that he had uncovered.

It was interesting to learn that the finding of the rampart was not due to a happy chance. When the field was in crop, Mr Smith had observed a line of exceptionally luxuriant growth running north and south, and had rightly inferred that it must represent the track of a ditch or ditches. Measuring an appropriate distance back, he had dug down until he struck the foundation. The immediate result of the new knowledge thus gained was to increase the estimated size of the *castellum* from  $4\frac{3}{4}$  acres to nearly 7, and so to emphasise its importance greatly. As in the case of the ramparts on the other three sides, the soil lying above the stones showed no sign of lamina-

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, xlix. p. 121.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 116 ff.

tion. It was plain that the superstructure had not been of turf, and no less plain that it had not been of stone. On the other hand, as before, traces of clay were apparent everywhere. Without doubt it had been very extensively used. Indeed, the possibility that the entire body of the rampart had been of this material is not to be excluded, particularly in view of the fact that, when the ditch immediately in front was examined in the winter of 1923-4, it proved to be full of clay, almost from top to bottom. It is not, however, the rampart of the fort that concerns us at the moment. It is the great Vallum itself. After determining the point of junction between the two, we followed the course of the latter towards the west, through Field No. 2095, by digging trenches across it at frequent intervals. The stone foundation was some distance beneath the modern surface, and was perfectly preserved. In none of the sections were the black lines visible, whereas clay was always more or less abundant, sometimes so abundant as to suggest that it may originally have formed the whole superstructure. In one case the whitish mass actually rose to a height of 3 feet 3 inches above the stones.

In any event, therefore, the general proposition as to a difference in structure between east and west may be regarded as established. The reason for it can only be guessed. In 1915 I suggested that in the middle of the second century of our era "the ground through which the eastern portion of the Wall ran was thickly wooded, so that suitable sods would not be readily procurable; whereas to the west of Falkirk the country was, as it is to some extent to-day, a moorland where thick grass and heather flourished."<sup>1</sup> No more probable explanation has been put forward in the interval. Fresh light has, however, been thrown on the different, though closely related, problem of the precise point at which the transition from sods to earth and clay took place. It was not, as the quotation given above might seem to indicate, at Falkirk itself, but considerably farther west. The evidence for this statement may be summarised briefly.

During the summer of 1916 some attempt was made to identify the site of the fort which is supposed to have stood at Falkirk.<sup>2</sup> The effort met with no success. The conditions were, and must always be, so unfavourable that the search was never anything but a forlorn hope. Only here and there in the wilderness of streets and houses and gardens was there a spot where trenching for so unwonted a purpose was practicable. Once or twice we seemed to catch a momentary glimpse of a clue, but always it turned out to be a will-o'-the-wisp. The most definite impressions I carried away were, firstly, that from

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, xlix. p. 123.

<sup>2</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, pp. 237 ff.

Rosehall westwards through the town the conjectural line laid down on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1898 is approximately correct; secondly, that the most likely situation for the *castellum* to have occupied is the high part of Arnot Hill, overlooking the hollow through which the now concealed West Burn once ran; and, thirdly, that it was probably not a large fort. As to the last point, a small fort here would be amply sufficient, in view of the exceptional size of Mumrills, its nearest neighbour on the east, to say nothing of the extra protection that would be ensured by the proximity of Camelon on the north. It is perhaps worth adding that, if my surmise as to its position be correct, the Falkirk *castellum*, standing (as it would do) on the right bank of the stream, supplies another illustration of what we have already observed to have been the general rule on this particular line.<sup>1</sup>

Although we had drawn a blank at Falkirk, compensation awaited us when we moved westwards. Bantaskine House was at this time in military occupation, and I had no difficulty in obtaining leave from the officer in charge to make such excavations as I desired. The track of the Ditch is fairly plain within the policies and afterwards through the grounds of Glenfuir House, right up to the point where it is interrupted by the series of basins which descends from the south to the well-known "Lock Sixteen" on the Forth and Clyde Canal. Beginning immediately to the east of the road called "Maggie Wood's Loan," we cut various sections across the course of the Wall. As a rule, the stone foundation was very easy to find, being only a little way beneath the surface. It was usually in tolerable preservation, although it generally turned out that one or other of the kerbs had been removed in laying out the park. Of the superstructure enough remained to satisfy us that it had been at least partly composed of clay, while nothing suggestive of sods could be detected anywhere. Plainly the Vallum had not yet become "cæspiticious." A feature deserving of remark here was the seemingly abnormal narrowness of the "berm."

Next year (1917) we carried the search beyond "Lock Sixteen." For three or four hundred yards beyond the basins the Ditch survives in exceptionally fine condition. Nowhere along the isthmus can one get a better idea of what it must have been like in its original state. On the other hand, the fields to the south are in cultivation, so that there is no mound left to indicate the whereabouts of the Wall. Digging, however, showed that the wire fence, which forms the northern boundary of the arable land, runs very nearly above the north kerb. We opened up the latter in one or two places, and noted wrought clay lying upon the stones and also spreading for some distance outwards.

<sup>1</sup> See *supra*, p. 278.

Once again there was a complete absence of lamination. By this time we were close to Watling Lodge, the site and garden of which lie directly athwart the Roman line. To the west of the garden is a small enclosure of uncultivated ground (Ordnance No. 1728), within which the remains of the Wall are sufficiently prominent to catch the eye at once. Leave to make a cut across them was readily granted, and the section provided us with the clue we had been seeking. There was no clay. But both faces of the cutting were pencilled with the "ineffaceable parallel dark lines," to which attention was first drawn by the *Glasgow Report*. It was clear that we were now in the region of sod construction—a region which extends continuously from this point to the Clyde. It was no less clear that the line of demarcation between the two systems must have been the trunk road which passed northwards through the Wall towards Camelon and Ardoch. Thirty or forty years ago, before Watling Lodge was built, this road could be seen quite plainly, crossing the Ditch,<sup>1</sup> and there is evidence to show that (as might have been anticipated) it was protected by a guard-house.<sup>2</sup>

### III. ROUGH CASTLE FORT (Plate III.).

In June 1920, with the kind permission of Mr Charles Forbes, I spent two or three days digging at Rough Castle, and obtained some fresh information which deserves to be put on record. I was fortunate enough to have the co-operation of Mr Mungo Buchanan and Mr A. O. Curle, the former of whom was present throughout and took the necessary measurements. The drawing reproduced on the accompanying Plate III. is Mr Buchanan's handiwork. Our principal object was to make a careful examination of the contents of one of the defensive pits or *lilia*, only a proportion of which had been disturbed during the excavations of 1903-5. We were anxious to determine the stratification as accurately as possible, and we were not unhopeful that the finding of stray pottery might confirm once for all the first-century date that I had suggested for the *lilia*. Our hopes in the latter respect proved illusory, and the date still awaits confirmation. On the other hand, the evidence supplied by the stratification was full of interest. It enables the phenomena recorded by the earlier excavators to be interpreted with a degree of certainty that was previously unattainable. We are now in a position to follow the fortunes of the Antonine fort with a real approach to confidence. The inferences drawn fifteen years ago from a study of the plan are shown by the stratification to have been well warranted.

The particular pit selected for examination was one belonging to

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, pl. xiii. 2.

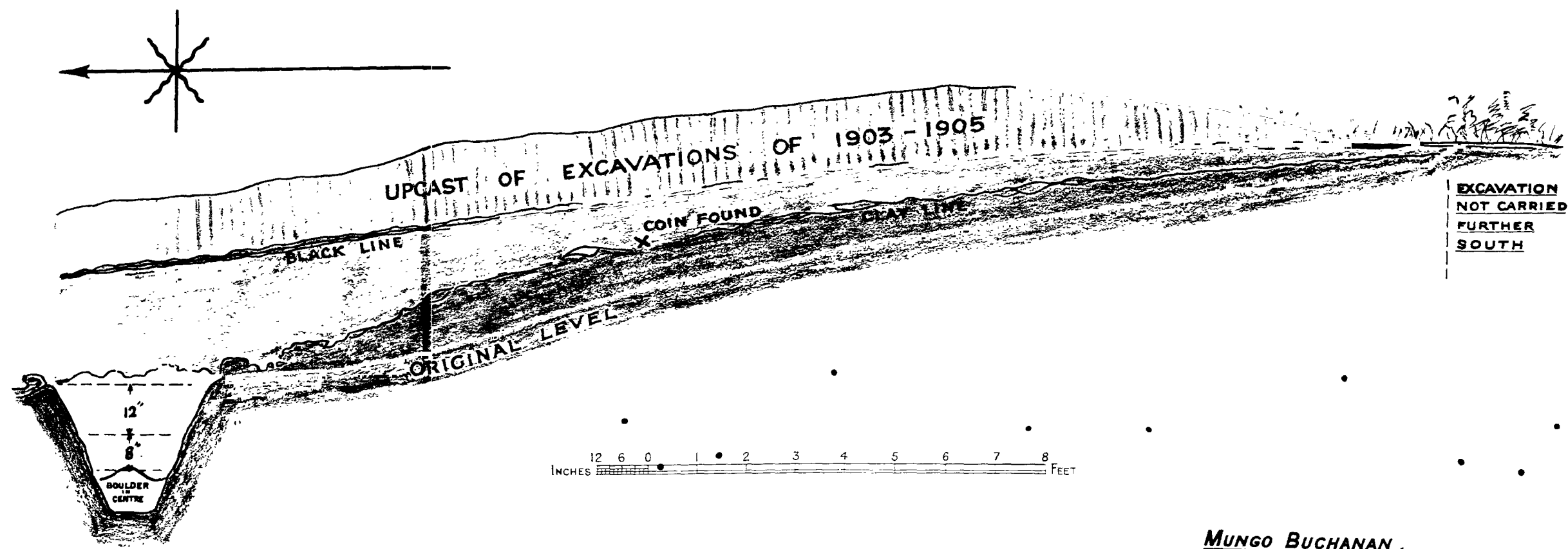
<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 247 ff.



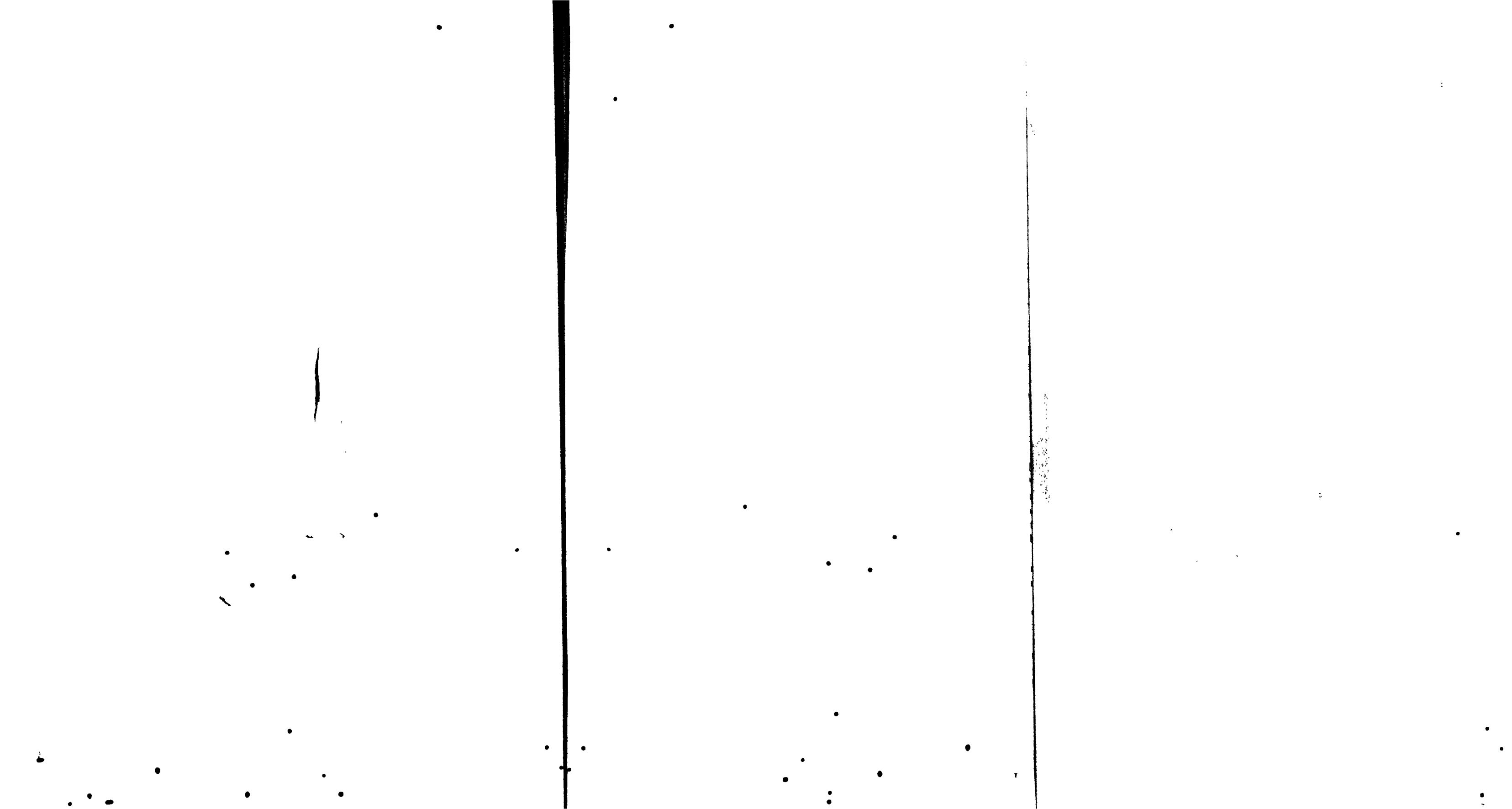
the most southerly of the ten parallel rows that are known to have existed. It turned out to be 6 feet long, a little over 3 feet broad, and slightly more than 2 feet 6 inches deep. In the bottom was a boulder projecting from the ground and obviously *in situ*. The pit had not been opened in 1903-5, but it was immediately adjacent, on the east, to those that had been cleared out in this row then. Consequently most, if not all, of the superincumbent material had already been removed, with the result that the original stratification had to be ascertained partly by exposing the face of the wall of earth that rose to a height of 3 feet or 4 feet on the east, but mainly and more definitely by cutting a trench for 25 feet due south into the heart of the "Outer Mound." Mr Buchanan's drawing speaks for itself, and greatly simplifies the task of description. It was destined to be the last of the many valuable contributions which his skilful pencil has made to our knowledge of the Antonine Wall.

The pit itself contained some fragments of coarse pottery. They were not numerous, and all of them appeared to be of Antonine date. The lowest was found close to the top of the boulder. Above the level of the original Roman surface three perfectly distinct layers of soil were observable, all of them abundantly interspersed with pieces of broken pottery, large or small, Samian as well as coarse ware. The uppermost layer had a fairly uniform thickness of about 1 foot 6 inches until it began to tail off towards the south at a distance of about 20 feet from the lip of the pit. It undoubtedly represented the upcast of the excavations of twenty years ago, for the black line dividing it from the layer below yielded stems of bracken and the like, whose disintegration had little more than begun. This line proved that prior to 1903 the gradient of the surface had been more pronounced than it is to-day, the sharpest rise being then about 1 foot in 9. Directly above the pit the intermediate layer had been nearly 2 feet 6 inches thick. Our trench showed that it tapered towards the south, rapidly at first but afterwards with more deliberation. Its lower limit was indicated by a narrow band of clay, which was revealed very clearly in the section and which had been carried right over the pit and beyond it, thus sealing it effectually. Beneath the band of clay was the lowest layer of all, consisting of soil of a slightly different colour and (as it seemed) of a somewhat coarser grain. With less variation, its thickness had a maximum of rather more than 1 foot. It rested upon the original Roman surface, the gradient of which had been somewhat steeper—at the steepest 1 foot in 5. So far as could be judged, the pottery shards were all of the second century, from whichever of the three layers they came. A much worn *denarius* of Mark Antony was

EXCAVATION AT ROUGHCASTLE ( ROMAN FORT ) NEAR FALKIRK, 1920.



MUNGO BUCHANAN.  
FALKIRK.



found embedded in the side of the trench at a point marked upon the Plate.

Thus much for the facts. It remains to register the more obvious conclusions. To begin with, the Outer Mound opposite Rough Castle is not composed of the earth that was thrown out when the great Ditch was dug: to a large extent, at least, it is natural. In the second place, if (as seems probable from their alignment) the *lilia* have no direct connection with the *castellum* of Lollius Urbicus but once formed part of the defences of an Agricolan fort, the earlier fort occupied a natural rising ground and had no ditch along its northern front, the place of the ditch or ditches being taken by the *lilia*. In view of the character of the terrain this would be a very natural arrangement: the area within which they were cut is a flat, platform-like expanse, itself protected on the north and on the west by an unusually steep declivity, well calculated to check the speed of the most impetuous rush. Finally, after the great Ditch had been dug and the Antonine fort built and garrisoned, the huge trench was twice allowed to become so choked up with debris that its value as an obstacle must have been almost, if not altogether, destroyed. On each occasion it was systematically cleared and made serviceable again, the accumulated rubbish being conveyed to the brow of the little hill in front and spread more or less evenly down the slope. The covering of clay, which was laid over the whole on the earlier of the two occasions, is perhaps indicative of less haste and of the application of more careful methods. Is it not self-evident that the successive accumulations represent two periods during which the Antonine fort lay waste after being temporarily abandoned under hostile pressure? In 1911 I argued from the plan which the excavators had produced, as well as from the structural appearances, that one complete reconstruction was certain and that another was possible or probable. Both are now fully vouched for by the testimony of the stratification I have been describing. I was disposed to think that the later restoration had been more hasty or more careless than the earlier, and some support for that view may conceivably be found in the fact that the covering of clay was not repeated. A new point of interest is suggested by the relative thickness of the strata. The later accumulation of debris appears to have been more considerable than the earlier. This does not necessarily mean that the second period of desolation was longer than the first. But it unquestionably means that the interval between the original construction of the fort and its first restoration was shorter than the time which elapsed between the first restoration and the second.

## IV. CROY HILL FORT.

Writing in 1911, I summarised the evidence in favour of the current opinion that a *castellum* had existed on Croy Hill. It was all circumstantial, but it appeared to be none the less conclusive. Direct proof was, however, desirable, and two days' digging in September, 1920, was sufficient to secure it. Leave to excavate was courteously granted by the Directors of Carron Company, who now own the site, and an indication was given that any objects found would be handed over to the National Museum. Mr John McIntosh, who knew every foot of the ground, readily agreed to supervise the workmen, and Mr Alexander Park, factor for Gartshore, most kindly put the necessary labour at my disposal. Apart from the establishment of the main fact we had set out to prove, and despite the cursory nature of our investigation, we were rewarded by an unlooked-for discovery: the defences of the fort had seemingly been constructed on a system entirely different from any of those known to have been employed elsewhere on the line of the Wall. To put the matter beyond doubt, further exploration is eminently desirable. Until that has been carried out, the short account that follows must be regarded as tentative. The enterprise would not be a costly one, partly because the area involved is comparatively small, and partly because the rock is within a foot or two of the surface almost everywhere, so that the quantity of soil to be moved would be much below the average. Pottery would probably be fairly plentiful. During our two days' work quite a number of shards were turned up, as well as no fewer than fourteen *ballista* balls. Our concern here, however, is with the fortifications.

The *castellum* stood on the "flat, shelf-like expanse," where I located it conjecturally in 1911.<sup>1</sup> At a distance of about 170 feet west of the solitary cottage now left upon the hill we struck a stretch of cobble foundation, both ends of which proved to be broken. When we first encountered it, it was running—as it did for the greater part of its length—at right angles to the *lines*. At a point about 146 feet south from the lip of the Ditch, which is here distinctly visible, it was interrupted by a gap some 18 feet wide. On either side of the gap it was carefully finished, not ragged as at the broken ends, and the inference that this was an entrance would have been irresistible, even had the Military Way not been plainly visible passing through it. For 85 feet further south the foundation followed a perfectly straight course. Thereafter it curved for about 23 feet, evidently heading for the east.

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, pp. 125 f. The doubt which I subsequently expressed (*Proceedings*, lli. p. 223) was unfounded.

Presumably it had continued in that direction, but unfortunately it had here been completely destroyed. A puzzling feature of what had obviously been the rounded corner of the fort was the occurrence of a ditch or drain running from the interior, but having no apparent outlet. Possibly, it had belonged to an earlier "lay out" of the *castellum*.

The foundation I have been describing was not more than 3 feet broad. A wall as narrow as is thus suggested would hardly have admitted of a rampart-walk on its top, and it is therefore difficult to believe that it can have stood alone. Yet it cannot have served as the outer facing of an earthen mound, for directly behind it, sheltering in its lee from the prevailing westerly winds, there were several hearths. No sign of a second wall at a suitable distance in front was detected. Otherwise one might have found an analogy at Gellygaer, where the fort was defended by a rampart of earth, supported before and behind by a wall of stone. Was the rampart at Croy Hill constructed of sods (or of earth) with a backing, instead of a base, of stone? And is the absence of a stone base to be explained by the thinness of the covering of soil that separates the surface from the solid rock? These are questions which it must be left for the future excavator to answer. But one piece of evidence that appeared significant should be recorded now. Outside of the rounded corner, and arranged so as to conform to it in shape, lay a number of stones which seemed from their character and position to have been placed where they were in order to serve as a foundation. The superstructure must have been of considerable size, as the stones extended for at least 10 feet or 12 feet beyond the outer edge of the cobbling. They were not a mere line, but covered the whole of the space involved. One naturally thinks of an angle tower, having its front flush with the face of the rampart, or of a platform for a *ballista*.

No trace of a ditch or ditches was observed. It may be that our exploratory trenches were not carried sufficiently far out from the cobbling. But it is at least equally likely that at Croy Hill, or at all events on the western face of the *castellum*, this familiar type of obstacle was dispensed with altogether, as it seems to have been on at least two sides of the fort at Hardknott.<sup>1</sup> At Croy Hill there would have been good reasons for so unusual an omission. On the one hand, the position was very strong by nature. On the other, to dig a ditch of any depth would have meant a hewing away of the solid rock. As to this I am tempted to quote what I have written elsewhere<sup>2</sup> regarding the great Ditch itself: "Only those who have examined the spot for themselves can realise how immense must have been the labour

<sup>1</sup> *Cumb. and Westm. Trans.*, xii. (1893), p. 394.  
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<sup>2</sup> *Journ. of Roman Studies*, xi. pp. 22 f.  
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involved in cutting the Ditch over Croy Hill. No such task would be attempted to-day without the help of high explosives. Almost as soon as they had stripped off the innocent-looking turf, the legionaries would find themselves faced by the stern, pitiless hardness of an unbroken sheet of basalt. At one point they had to make a frank admission of defeat. Nearly opposite the site of the *castellum* the Ditch is blocked for a space of 50 or 60 feet by the intrusion of a huge doleritic mass, which towers high above the surrounding level. Even the highly disciplined Roman workmen shrank from any endeavour to cope with an obstacle so formidable. It was left severely alone."

To those who approach this remarkable break in the Ditch from the south—as well as to those who owe their knowledge of it to the Glasgow Society's *Report*,<sup>1</sup> where it is described (with perfect correctness) as "a narrow hog-backed bank of doleritic rock, with . . . a flattish top" which "must have been near the level of the natural surface of the ground"—the language used of it above may well seem to be exaggerated. Let them approach it from the east, as the legionaries did, and it will give them a different impression. It is quite possible that it may have been utilised to carry a road across the Ditch, as has more than once been suggested. But, if so, the road can hardly have issued directly from the northern gate of the fort; for this to be so, the "bridge" is too far to the east of that part of the remains of the rampart which has now been identified. Standing on the "flattish top" one cannot but feel that it would have made an ideal signalling station: the view is most extensive in almost every direction. Two final points have still to be mentioned. In the first place, the *castellum* was relatively small. In the second place, the abundance of Roman building material that can still be observed in the dykes and among the ruins of the cottages suggests that here the barracks, as well as the principia and the commandant's house, must have been constructed of stone. That is exactly what we might have expected. Suitable stone was plentiful, and to fix wooden sleepers or wooden posts in the rocky surface would have been a most laborious business.

#### V. KIRKINTILLOCH FORT.

Ever since people began to write about the Antonine Wall, it has been generally taken for granted that Kirkintilloch was the site of one of its forts. Indeed, so long as the remains of the Peel were believed to be Roman, no other opinion was possible. As soon as it was recognised that in character and origin they were not Roman but

<sup>1</sup> Pp. 59 f.

Norman, cautious critics began to demand that evidence of a different and more trustworthy sort should be produced. In 1911 I examined the question in the light of all the information then at my disposal, and reached the conclusion that, after the testimony of the Peel had been ruled out as irrelevant and inadmissible, the balance of probability still favoured the traditional view.<sup>1</sup> It is not necessary to recapitulate here the various considerations of which account was taken. It must suffice to say that they ranged from the extreme suitability of the position to the fragments of an amphora, and that nothing was accepted as authentic which did not seem satisfactorily vouched for. Despite it all, the late Professor Haverfield was left unconvinced. His verdict was, as always, tersely expressed: "*Nec vestigia castelli supersunt, nec tituli prodierunt; sed locus presidio peridoneus, nomen eius pristinum, priore parte castellum significans* (Cairpentalloch), *amphora una Romana, nonnulli nummi Macdonaldo persuaserunt ut castellum admitteret. Nihilominus res incerta est.*"<sup>2</sup>

This challenge, published in 1913, was too definite to be disregarded, and I suggested that the matter should be probed further on the earliest possible occasion. An opportunity presented itself in the end of July 1914, when the Town Council of Kirkintilloch were good enough to sanction the cutting of a few trenches in the Public Park, within whose limits the Peel is now included. Mr John M'Intosh was luckily able to take charge of the workmen—an arrangement which secured that nothing of importance would be inadvertently missed. Although the outbreak of the War prevented the operations from being carried as far as could have been wished, the results obtained were, I think, sufficiently decisive. But, before attempting to describe them, I should like to place on record a few facts which have come to my knowledge since 1911, and which, had I been able to cite them at the time, would certainly have strengthened the case I then endeavoured to make out.

The first was brought to my notice by Professor Haverfield himself. Looking through an old notebook, he was reminded that he had seen in the Museum at Durham two building-stones, which seemed to be Roman and which were said to have come from the Peel of Kirkintilloch. At my request he communicated with Canon Fowler, who wrote that he had himself picked them up in the moat of the Peel in July 1877, and carried them off to Durham. "What made them take my fancy," he added, "was that they were such fine examples of cross-hatching. One is a perfect facing-stone, narrowed from the front in the usual way, the other is a broken irregular stone, but both show

<sup>1</sup> *Roman Wall in Scotland*, pp. 174 ff.

<sup>2</sup> *Ephem. Epigr.*, ix. p. 626.



the cross-hatching on the faces extremely well." Professor Haverfield was not disposed to question their Romanity seriously, but he suggested the possibility of their having been brought from some neighbouring *castellum*, say Auchendavy, when the Peel was being built. The suggestion was typical of Haverfield's reluctance to be content with anything that fell short of exact and absolute proof. But it appeared to me improbable; Auchendavy is nearly two miles away, and its buildings were in all likelihood completely demolished long before the Comyns erected their stronghold of Kirkintilloch Castle, with which the Peel may be presumed to be identical.<sup>1</sup>

In 1914 my doubts were confirmed by an examination of the wall that separates the Public Park from an avenue on the west. A number of the stones in this seemed obviously Roman: one on the western face, in particular, showed the cross-hatching very distinctly, and there were others. These may be supposed to have come from the Peel, after it had fallen into decay, just as the material used in the Peel itself may be supposed to have been obtained, at least in part, from the ruins of the Roman fort that had preceded it. That would fully explain what we are told by Horsley, who saw the work of destruction going on. One of the grounds on which he believed the Peel to be Roman was that some of the stones which were being removed from it were "chequered."<sup>2</sup>

Again, a portion of an unquestionably Roman quern, now in the Hunterian Museum as a gift from Dr John Buchanan, is specifically stated in the notice of the donation to have been found at the Peel of Kirkintilloch. Another item of fresh information is supplied by a manuscript note on the margin of Dr Buchanan's copy of the second edition of Stuart's *Caledonia Romana* (p. 325), where there is a record of "a large Brass Coin of the Emperor Galba found a few years ago near the Peel of Kirkintilloch." Two similar notes, though perhaps less relevant to our immediate purpose, may appropriately be cited here. One of them (p. 323) refers to the "bar of lead," of which Stuart speaks, and the inscription, on which was (he says) "not sufficiently legible to enable us to present the reader with a copy." The marginal comment is: "The letters on this bar of lead were CCLXX. I saw them distinctly in 1826, when I first visited the place, and marked them

<sup>1</sup> I am, of course, well aware that (as was convincingly proved by the late Dr George Neilson) a "peel" was essentially a wooden structure. But in popular parlance the name was transferred to castles of stone at a fairly early period. I have been unable to discover, or to hear of, any ancient reference to the *Peel* of Kirkintilloch; it is always the *Castle*. Mr W. M. Mackenzie suggests to me that the oldest is Gordon's *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, p. 54, and that accords with my own observations. In any event, Horsley's description proves that this Peel was of stone.

<sup>2</sup> *Britannia Romana*, p. 168.

down in my notebook." The other (p. 324) describes the ultimate fate of the "stone, having sculptured on it, in bold relief, the head of a bull with distended nostrils and a fillet across the forehead," which had passed into Dr Buchanan's collection. It runs: "This stone was placed by me in the walled back-garden of Slatefield House, eastern suburbs of Glasgow, our old family property, and it remained there many years; but since this volume was published, the stone was accidentally destroyed and split up, in my absence, by an ignorant mason, in making some repairs, to my great regret."

Turning now to the work done in 1914, I may begin by recalling the persistent belief that the Roman fort of Kirkintilloch stood on the north, or Caledonian, side of the Wall. Horsley calls it "the common opinion and tradition," but is evidently more than a little doubtful as to whether it ought to be accepted. He thought that the idea might have originated in a confusion between the Military Way and the Wall at a time when the former, but not the latter, was still visible in the immediate neighbourhood.<sup>1</sup> He makes it plain that before his own day both had completely disappeared. In point of fact the mistake—for that it is a mistake seems certain—is in all probability due simply to the erroneous identification of the remains of the Peel with the remains of the Roman *castellum*. Roy's positive statement that the Wall "passed to the southward of the fort, called the Peel, situated just in front of it"<sup>2</sup> is shown, by reference to his plan, to be a mere deduction from the line which the Wall was following at the nearest point where he could trace it approaching the Peel from the west. It never occurred to him, any more than it had done to Horsley, to suspect the Roman origin of the Peel, and the conclusion seemed therefore irresistible. Horsley, on the other hand, justified his doubts by casting his glance farther eastwards. Beyond the Peel there was a blank stretch of fully half a mile within which no sign of the Wall could be discovered. But "when it first appears again, the line seems to point towards [the north rampart of the station]."<sup>3</sup> By "the station," of course, he means the Peel.

Before beginning operations in the Public Park, we decided to examine as carefully as possible the blank stretch which Horsley and his contemporaries had encountered. It is represented by the northern part of the town of Kirkintilloch, the growth of which has inevitably entailed the destruction of the Wall. Mr M'Intosh went over the ground repeatedly alone, and more than once in my company. No digging was attempted. Instead, we scanned the walls of houses and other buildings in the hope of finding subsidences which would indicate

<sup>1</sup> *Op. cit.*, p. 169.

<sup>2</sup> *Milit. Ant.*, p. 159.

<sup>3</sup> *Brit. Rom.*, l.c.

the track of the long-buried Ditch. Starting from the bank of the Canal, on the farther side of which (in Horsley's words) "it appears again" running towards Auchendavy,<sup>1</sup> we tried to work back—that is, westwards—towards the Peel. Though our conclusions must be regarded as entirely tentative, it may be worth while stating them. If digging would be difficult, it would not be quite impracticable, and a few trenches cut, say, near the left bank of the Luggie might speedily show whether we were right or wrong. I had planned an exploration of the sort for the latter part of 1914. But, like many much more important undertakings, it was nipped in the bud by the War. Meanwhile, therefore, we must rest content with conjecture.

It seemed to us, then, that on leaving the Canal bank to descend into the valley of the Luggie the line did not run straight on towards the north rampart of the Peel, as Horsley had supposed, but swerved slightly to the south and, after crossing Canal Street and the Luggie, passed not far from the Lion Foundry. If a subsidence in the wall of the school building in Union Street and another in that of the vestry of the Roman Catholic Chapel can be accepted as trustworthy indications, it must have turned sharply to the north somewhere to the west of the Cowgate, and must then have climbed the rising-ground on which the Peel stands, not by the familiar Peel Brae, but along the southern slope. This, again, would involve an almost rectangular bend at the top, in order to meet that portion of the Wall which is shown on Roy's plan advancing from the west. Further, it would open up the interesting possibility (suggested to me by Mr M'Intosh) that the Wall may have formed not only the northern but also the eastern rampart of the Kirkintilloch *castellum*.

So far, however, the *castellum* has been in the air. I think it may be claimed that our work in the Public Park, despite the fact that it had to be left unfinished, has definitely brought it down to solid earth. A trench dug from south to north for the whole length of the Park yielded no information of any value. On the other hand, a similar trench, cut transversely from about the middle of the western edge of the Park, revealed the remains of a road or street some 2 feet below the surface. What was left of this road or street was about 11 feet wide. Its western kerb had been torn away, but its eastern one was intact for about 20 feet. Three hearths were also uncovered, one of them large and the other two small. In the large one were found some pieces of coarse pottery and a small portion of the rim of a mortarium of red ware. The whole site had clearly been much disturbed, but the evidence of occupation in Roman times seemed to be

<sup>1</sup> The line is accurately shown on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1898.

conclusive. Thus, fragments of tiles, which had all the appearance of being Roman, were fairly numerous, some of them being flanged. Had we been fortunate enough to cut through the line of a ditch or ditches it would have been much more satisfactory. As it was, we were able only to note a marked subsidence in the gable of a house to the west of the Park. This may conceivably provide a useful clue in the event of further search becoming feasible. Meanwhile it should not be stressed too strongly.

It will be seen that the testimony I have collected is somewhat disjointed. But the case is one in which here a little and there a little may well be accepted as all that need be asked for or required. The thronging feet of the men of the Middle Ages who built the Peel and dwelt in and around it, could not but obliterate many of the traces left by those who occupied the ground in earlier days. No doubt the single strands of evidence are slender enough. But in the circumstances the wonder perhaps is that so many of them have survived. Taken together—"chequered" stones, stray finds, the road, the tiles and other marks of occupation—they form a cord sufficiently strong to support the view that the Roman fort of Kirkintilloch is much more than a mere figment of the antiquary's imagination.

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